Valley Farmer.

A Monthly Agricultural Journal, Designed to Benefit the Planter, Farmer Gardener, Fruit Grower and Stock Raiser.

VOL. 9. SEPT., 1857. NO. 9.

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VOL. 9: SEPT., 1857. NO. 9.

Terms of Subscription.

One Copy One Year	$ 1 00
Six Copies "	5 00
Ten " "	8 00
Thirteen " "	10 00
Twenty " "	15 00

Terms of Advertising.

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CULTURE OF WHEAT.

The history of nations can furnish no parallel to the increase of population, the rise, progress and improvement in the various arts and sciences in the United States. The improvements in Agriculture and agricultural implements and machines, although great within the last fifteen years, have hardly kept pace with the improvements in some other departments of industry. Until recently agriculture has been regarded by but few as a science; the majority of cultivators seemed to consider the breaking the surface of the soil for three or four inches in depth, and depositing the seed, and a slight cultivation of summer crops the perfection of farming, but recent practice and experience have exposed these errors and are beginning to develope important improvements in every department of farming. Until the East stretched forth her iron bands and became so intimately connected with the great West, wheat was only grown for home consumption and but little effort was necessary to produce more than was required for this purpose. Ordinarily the seed was sown upon a portion of the corn ground, before the corn was harvested, and this of course would admit of but imperfect preparation of the soil, and a full crop could not be expected, but in favorable seasons this course secured more than was required for family use, and the low price would not warrant the transportation of the surplus to any remote market. But the establishment of numerous railroads and the improvements in water communication have advanced and equalized the price until wheat has become one of our most profitable staples. These circumstances have led to some improvement in the cultivation of this crop, yet there is room for still greater improvement. Of all the crops cultivated there is none subject to so many vicissitudes and enemies as the wheat crop, and none that requires a more thorough knowledge and greater care in its cultivation. Nor is there any crop grown that more rapidly exhausts the soil, or in which there is a greater falling off from repeated crops on the same land. These facts should lead every farmer to make the most careful investigations and adopt the most thorough system of cultivation and make numerous experiments in regard to drainage, different modes of culture, different varieties of seed, as well as different times of seeding, &c., and give to the world the various results thro' the Valley Farmer.

We propose to offer some remarks upon the culture of the wheat crop which may be adopted by those who do not practice a better method. In many parts of the country, wheat is mostly sown upon summer fallow, or upon clover turned under, say in August, or in time to afford a partial fermentation or decomposition before the time of sowing the seed. This method has recently been practiced by some of the best Kentucky farmers with the most encouraging results; but clover is seldom sown as it should be to the full extent of the wheat crop. The most common practice among the Western

farmers is to fallow wheat after corn. But this does not afford that improvement to the land, nor so good a preparation of the soil as when sown after clover, for if put in amid the standing corn the preparation must necessarily be imperfectly performed, and if the corn is to be cut up and shocked much labor is required to perform this on an extensive scale and frequently results in getting the seed into the ground at too late a period to afford the plants a full time to become so firmly rooted as to resist the heaving influences of the winter frosts.

When wheat is to follow corn, the most thorough preparation of the soil for the corn should be made by deep plowing, &c. The extra labor bestowed in this way will be doubly compensated by the increased yield of corn, besides leaving the ground in a better condition to receive the wheat, whether it is to be put in while the corn is standing or after it is shocked.—It is claimed by some tolerable farmers that nothing is lost by sowing wheat among standing corn, for although the ground can be but imperfectly prepared the protection afforded to the growing wheat during winter by the corn stalks is more than compensated for any lack of preparation. Whether this be so or not, it is a slovenly practice and should be discarded.

We have never seen more thorough preparation of land for wheat than is generally practiced by the farmers of the Genesee valley and the wheat growing districts of New York. The course generally pursued there is, to sow upon summer fallow, and the preparation is as thorough as would be required for a garden. The same care on our Western lands, we have no doubt would add at least twenty-five per cent to the general product.

Selection and Preparation of the Seed.—The choice of seed both as to quality and its variety and its preparation are matters of the first importance. Some varieties of wheat are better adapted to certain localities and soils than others. Some mature earlier and escape the effects of rust and destruction by insects. Choice in these matters must be guided by experience. A little care and observation on this point, and the result made public, would prove of utmost advantage to farmers in general. It is seldom that the seed receives the proper care in freeing it from inferior grains and foul seed that is necessary. Immature or imperfect seed will not produce a vigorous plant and a full crop; such plants are only an incumbrance to the more perfect ones. Seed wheat, like seed corn should be selected in the field, the portion chosen should be passed over just before the crop comes into blossom and all the rye, cheat and mixed varieties of wheat pulled out. When harvested and threshed it should be thoroughly cleaned, by being several times run through the fan. Where cheat has been harvested with the seed much of it may be removed by running it through the fan the last time after removing all the riddles, feeding slow and turning with a moderate and steady hand. But to complete the process of cleaning, a steep of brine, or a solution of blue vitriol or copperas, into which the seed should be put, taking care to skim off all light and imperfect grains, cheat and other foul seed that will float upon the surface. These being removed and after soaking a few hours the wheat should be drained and then rolled in dry air slacked lime, when it is ready to sow. This will generally prevent smut by destroying the vitality of the sporules from which it is supposed this fungus is produced. Care in these particulars will be doubly compensated in the purity and increase of the crop.

Method of Seeding.—Drilling seed grain is no longer a problem; for years past those who have practiced this method of seeding have been convinced of its advantages, but the effects of the past season have produced the most conclusive testimony in favor of the drill. The winter, in many parts, was excessively wet, and the effects of frost upon the growing crop was more severe than it has been for many years past.—The wheat sown broad-cast in many instances was entirely killed out and in others materially injured, while that which was drilled became uniformly and firmly rooted and withstood the effects of frost almost unharmed. Besides this advantage there are others in favor of this system of seeding. Drilled grain, when the rows runn or than dsouth, receives the more direct influence of the sun which is a partial protection against rust. The saving of seed alone upon any considerable farm, will, in a short time more than pay the cost of the drill, while the increased yield is from *ten* to *fifty* per cent.

The Northern and Western portions of Missouri have suffered extremely from drouth the past summer. Last winter the wheat was all destroyed by the severe frosts. Many of our subscribers in these sections have informed us that the quantity of seed planted will not be harvested this season. From all accounts the farmers in the sections of our State referred to must experience not only great loss but much suffering.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

White River Junction, Vt., Aug. 3, '57.

Mr. Colman:—I am on the wing, and would send you back a few jottings by the way-side. I have been out two weeks, and have seen much to impress me with the greatness of our country, and the ultimate grandeur of its destiny. The richness and grandeur of the West, the solidity and beauty of the East; the greatness of our rivers and lakes; the immense travel and commerce on our cars and boats; the rapidity with which the whole country is being covered over with railroads, and every distant nook and corner opened for intercourse and market; the variety of our soil and climate; the general productiveness of the whole, the activity of our people; the rapid spread of intelligence; the safety of persons and property everywhere apparent, all bespeak for our country a grand future! And at the bottom of all this, I see Agriculture as the grand foundation on which the great superstructure must rest. Beautiful as are our lakes and rivers; grand as are our prairies and mountains, great as is the West, picturesque and lovely as is the East, it would all be of little value to man were it not for the productive soil. This is and is to be the mother of all our greatness. It is more than a mine of gold spread over all our country; it is more than mountains of precious stones. And as the soil is valuable, theart of cultivating it is important to man. In all my travels I have had an eye to the soil and the crops. The wheat, the corn, the fruit, the grass, potatoes, gardens, &c., &c., have been observed, and I have been delighted to see such a general good prospect for abundance.

The season is everywhere late and generally cold, but crops are steadily coming forward to perfection with a good prospect. The wheat is generally matured and the harvest is abundant. All through Southern Illinois, Indiana, the whole distance of Ohio from north to south through the centre, and Western New York, the wheat crop seemed good. I see some good pieces in Vermont, though not yet matured. The grass crop I judge to be universally fair. The oat crop bids fair. The fruit promise is excellent. Potatoes in northern latitudes will probably be abundant. There has been much and frequent rain all along from the West to New England, in the latitude north of central Ohio. The season has been quite wet. Showers have been frequent all along my route. It was very dry in the latitude of St. Louis when I left, but not so farther north. I hope you have had rain there before this time. On the whole, I think the farmer is to have a good year. The hard winter used up pretty closely the produce of last year, so that good prices may be expected for all kinds of farm productions this year. And they will continue year after year.

Travel over our country, see its cities and villages, witness the multitudes of men engaged in trade and commerce, in arts, manufactures, local and general improvements, in professions, railroading, traveling, speculating, and the number is yearly increasing, who must eat and yet produce nothing directly from the soil.—This state of things must keep the farmer's productions at a high figure, and make his the safest and best business of the country. Even here, in mountainous Vermont, the farmers are doing the best of any class of men. And although New England, like an old bee-hive, is annually sending off its swarms of industrious and enterprising young people, still land is rising in value, and the farming interests are improving. So it must be all over the country. The immense immigration also benefits the farmers, by increasing the number of consumers over producers. This country never before had so fair prospects for farmers, and I see not how it can be othwerwise, than that for the next hundred years, farming shall be the sefest and most lucrative business in the country. There will be individual bankers, merchants and manufacturers, that will be richer than farmers, but the farmers as a whole, will be the best off of any class.

I have not yet reached the point of my destination. One day more and I shall rest from my flight for a short time. It is many years since I have looked upon the Alpine scenery of Vermont, and it is really refreshing to my spirits. Nothing on the wide prairies, along the beautiful rivers or on the great lakes of the West, has charmed me more than the bold mountain aspects and placid beauty of the hill scenery of the Green Mountain State. I write you from the banks of the Connecticut, at the mouth of White river. It is a picturesque spot,—an amphitheatre of lovely hills and vales, fresh and green as a garden, with two beautiful villages nestled in home-like quiet near the centre. The houses are so white, their yards so green with shrubbery, the hills are so high and round; the fields so well cultivated; the rivers are so clear, winding their way like threads of silvery light among the green hills and meadows; the air is so bracing, and the scenery so varied, look in which direc-

tion you may, that one cannot but feel that almost every place on this fair earth has much to recommend it.

(Written for the Valley Farmer.)

AGRICULTURAL FAIRS.

BY HETTIE HAYFIELD.

Every week brings to our table the circulars of approaching fairs, which sets us to thinking,

1st. These fairs are great institutions and destined to wonderful popularity, because our people are a prosperous and pleasure hunting generation. Their means are ample and opportunities few for indulging in such recreations—hence they seize with avidity every gratification of the kind offered them.

2d. Our people are an extravagant and ostentatious people, and they find no fairer or more legitimate field for the display of dress, equipage and hospitality than said fair grounds. And while we deprecate the taste that flaunts jewels and silks and gossamer bonnets in garish sun shine, still we congratulate ourselves that this opportunity in some degree satiates pride and thereby saves the church from being the sole theatre of such displays.

3d. We think the originators and sustainers of these fairs have before them the high end of advancing our country's most important branch of industry and real source of prosperity, viz: Agriculture. We gratefully acknowledge the increased thrift, comfort and luxury of homes is in some measure the result of their efforts, and we commend the wisdom of their addressing themselves to the ambition of our people, seeing it is the strongest element in Western (perhaps more properly) American character.

And now to borrow from the usages of clerical brethren, may we not suggest some improvements in our subject, after first acknowledging the courtesy of our countrymen in always yielding to us the best places, first day, and equal premiums.

Do not the scales of justice need to be balanced anew. Why are persons prohibited from exhibiting any domestic article not strictly home-made, while the mere owner of a carriage is allowed to carry off the premium over the enterprising mechanic that is strugging to establish a new and desirable business amongst us? Why are premiums for the same article graded in value, according to the costliness of the material composing the article? We allude to quilts particularly. To do strict justice there should be two premiums offered. One for beauty of design and one for perfection of skill in needle work, and surely societies intended to encourage industry and develope taste, should rather award the premium to her who has with *least expense* produced the *best article*, skill and design considered, rather than to one whose superiority is but the accidental ability to procure costly materials. We would by no means narrow the field of competition; on the contrary we hope every year will increase the societies' ability to extend their list until it includes every article of usefulness and taste. Indeed we hope that similar institutions for the encouragement of arts and letters, will spring up all around us. But we are a nation of utilitarians by virtue of our good political institutions; hence we always give the useful the precedence over the ornamental, and always advocate the equal rights of every body in equal circumstances.

Would not a change in the method of exhibiting domestic articles, dairy products, fruits, flowers, &c., &c., be desirable? Where there is no industrial hall, a room in the cottage, usually on the grounds, or a nice booth would answer. The expenses of such an establishment would be defrayed by the sale of articles usually donated to the society, or a trifling entrance fee. Who would not give five times the value of a sample of cloth, loaf, or bottle of wine, to have the pleasure of taking it home as a standard whereby to test one's own productions. These articles are usually submitted to the judges—the crier announces the decision, and there is not much increase in knowledge gained thereby, save that Mrs. A made the best butter and Mrs. B. second rate, &c., &c. A short interval is generally allowed for the examination of these things, but quite insufficient for the purpose, and so three-fourths of the crowd never see anything to quicken the pulse of their domestic system.

Should not every competitor furnish a written statement of the process of preparation, to be published at the discretion of the society for the benefit of all seekers of improvement in domestic economy?

REMARKS.—Being from home at the date of the foregoing communication, we regret it did not find us in time for publication in our August number. But the suggestions of our fair correspondent, in which we fully concur, are in time for the consideration of the managers of our agricultural fairs, and we hope that the subjects alluded to will receive the consideration which their importance demands.—EDS.

LUNAR INFLUENCE, OR FARMING IN THE MOON.

From the earliest periods mankind have been idsposed to trace the causes of the wonderful and varied phenomena of nature that are daily occurring around them. It doing this, it is not to be wondered at that great errors have frequently been adopted and promulgated, even by some who claimed to be philosophers and learned men, and to the present day many of the popular errors, prejudices and superstitions of early times are handed down and impressed upon the minds of the young, which are regarded by them through life as profound truths.

In attempting to trace these causes, not a few are attributed to the influence of comets, but more to the moon. It is of one of these popular delusions entertained by many of a certain class in whose prosperity and welefare we feel a special interest, that we design now particularly to speak. It is of the influence that the moon is supposed to have upon vegetation and upon the various operations connected with farming.

Many have been taught to believe that the phases of the moon must be consulted before performing many of the most common labors of the farm. If the "worm," of a common rail fence is to be laid, the moon is the index of the proper time; if the seeds of onions, beets, carrots, turnips, potatoes, &c., are to be planted, a particular age or phase of the moon must be observed; if the seeds of another class of farm crops, which are produced above ground are to be planted, and though the ground is in the best possible order and the weather most propitious, the planting must be deferred until the moon presents an opposite phase, and thus important operations are put off ten or fifteen days, and this delay, in our ever changing climate, perhaps causes the crop to be overtaken by either *drouth flood* or *frost*, and results in a loss of one half of what otherwise might have been produced. If the beef or pork for family use is to be killed, upon no consideration is it to be done except on the "increase of the moon," else it will "shrink in the pot," and even if the good house-wife is to engage in that important *chemical* operation of soap-making, the materials will not mingle so as to insure "luck," unless the moon is right; and so of other important operations which it is needless to enumerate.

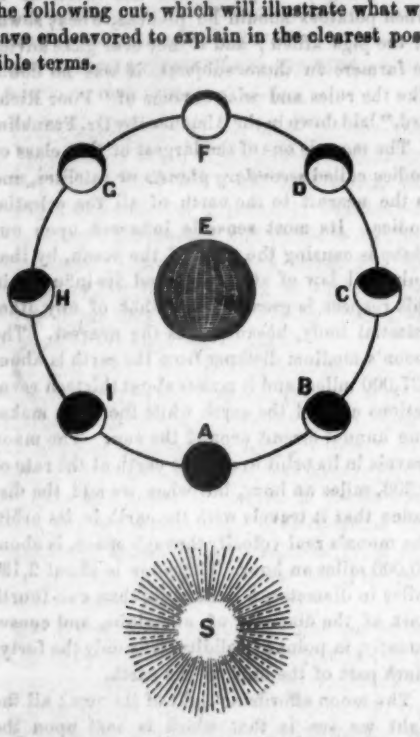
But this wonderful influence of the moon upon the every-day operations of man in his terrestrial sphere, was entirely overlooked by the the most profound philosophers and astronomers of the world. Neither Copernicus, Kepler, Galileo, Newton, La Place, nor Hershell ever thought of questioning the moon as to when potatoes should be planted, wheat sown, or the pigs killed; and if they ever gave advice to farmers on these subjects, it was no doubt like the rules and wise sayings of "Poor Richard," laid down in the Almanacs by Dr. Franklin.

The moon is one of the largest of that class of bodies called *secondary planets* or satelites, and is the nearest to the earth of all the celestial bodies. Its most sensible influence upon our globe is causing the tides of the ocean, by that universal law of attraction, and its influence in this respect is greater than that of any other celestial body, because it is the nearest. The moon's medium distance from the earth is about 237,000 miles, and it makes about thirteen revolutions around the earth while the earth makes one annual circuit around the sun. The moon travels in its orbit arund the earth at the rate of 2,300, miles an hour, but when we add the distance that it travels with the earth in its orbit, the moon's real volocity through space, is about 70,000 miles an hour. The moon is about 2,180 miles in diameter, a little more than one-fourth part of the diameter of our globe, and consequently, in point of solidity, it is only the forty-ninth part of the bulk of the earth.

The moon affords no light of its own; all the light we see is that which is cast upon the moon's surface from the sun, just as any body on the earth receives and reflects light when turned towards the sun. The surface of the moon is no more enlightend at one time than another; it is always the same. The side that is towards the sun is always light, and the opposite side always dark, because the rays of the sun can only fall upon one side at the same time. As we have said, the moon moves thirteen times around the earth in the space of one year. In making each of these revolutions the moon passes between the earth and the sun, and is then called new moon, because the moon and the sun are in nearly the same direction from the earth, and hence but a small portion of the enlightened side of the moon is turned towards us, but as it moves in its orbit around the earth more and more of the enlightened side of the moon is turned towards the earth, until about the end of two weeks from the time of passing the sun, or the time of new moon, it comes into that part of its orbit opposite the sun, that is, the earth occupying a position between the sun and the moon, and consequently the whole enlightened side of the moon is towards the earth,

in full view, and it is then called full moon.

In order that our young readers may fully comprehend the subject, we have had engraved the following cut, which will illustrate what we have endeavored to explain in the clearest possible terms.



S, represents the sun; E the earth, and A B C D F G H I, the moon in different parts of its circuit round the earth, with its hemisphere turned towards the sun fully enlightened. When the moon is at A, its enlightened side being turned towrads the sun, its dark side is turned towards the earth, and is invisible to us except at the time of an eclipse, when the moon passes in whole or a part between us and the sun, and this only occurs at the time of new moon. When after a few days the moon has moved from A to B, a portion of its enlightened surface is then turned towards the earth, and it appears as a crescent; when it has arrived at C, the one-half of its enlightend side is turned towards the earth, and it appears in the form of a half moon; and when arrived at D, it presents a gibbous phase, and when arrived at F, it shines in all its splendor as a full moon. After this period it gradually declines, first to a gibbous phase as at G, next to a half moon as at H, then to a crescent as at I, after which it arrives at its former position at A, the period of new moon, when it is again invisible.

Now when it is considered that the moon shines from no light of its own, but only from light borrowed and reflected from the sun, and the varied appearance which it presents to us at different times in its circuit around the earth, is caused solely, as we have said, by the different positions which the moon occupies in relation to the sun and the observer on the earth, how can it be possible that it can have any influence upon the growth of plants or any of the operations of the farmer. Another important influence has long been attributed to the moon, and that is upon the weather, at the period of each quarter. From a long series of observations and comparison of tables, the most learned astronomers have given it as an established fact that the moon exercises no influence whatever in this respect.

From opinions early formed, we have no doubt there are many who will still differ with us in the views we have expressed, but we believe they are now fully sustained by the most profound philosophers in every country.

THE WHEAT MIDGE.

The ravages of this mysterious and destructive insect are still continued in New York and probably in other parts. So destructive has it become in Western New York that the farmers generally have suspended in a great degree the culture of this important crop.

While making a recent tour through this State, among the farmers, we took pains to examine, with some care, the wheat growing in various fields in order to know more of this insect. We have known it for upwards of twenty-five years, and during this period its progress has been gradually Westward, though its depredation seems hardly as universal and as extensive as it has proved in New York. The egg is deposited in the embryo grain and while in the milky state the grain is devoured by them. In some grains from one to ten or fifteen are found, and in some fields hardly one head in a hundred will escape. To an unpracticed eye nothing peculiar in the appearance of the growing grain will be observed, but to one acquainted with it, it is readily perceptible, by the heads standing more erect in consequence of the loss of the grain. In appearance the insect in this stage resembles a minute maggot of an orange color and when full grown is hardly the twelfth of an inch long and quite slim, and when in the perfect or winged state it is apparently still more frail. Should circumstances favor its growth and development as it advan-

ces into the great wheat growing sections of the West, its appearance may be regarded with no small degree of alarm. Whether like some other destructive insects it will finally pass away for a time or whether its work of destruction is to be continued forever where it once finds its way, time only can determine.

In New York when it cannot find wheat in which to deposit its eggs it will attack rye and oats, but with less disastrous results, as wheat appears to be its favorite food. At a future time we may give a more full account of its history and character, accompanied with illustrations of it in its various stages.

New Hemp and Cotton Plant.

It may be known to some of our readers that about three years ago a Mrs. Beaumont discovered growing wild in the South Western part of Wisconsin a peculiar plant, the bark of which afforded a kind of hemp, and the seed pods a fibre resembling cotton. From the promised value of this plant this lady has been induced to cultivate it and has at this time 15 or 16 acres of it growing upon her farm. From her description of it, which we copy below, we are inclined to regard it as one of the most valuable discoveries of the age, hardly excepting the gold of California, particularly should the product be of such a nature as to be gathered and prepared with facility, affording a material in any way equal to cotton and hemp or flax as she is led to believe. From the climate of Wisconsin it is evident that it may be grown in almost any part of our country. We hope from the quantity she now has under cultivation that specimens of it will be forwarded to the eastern manufacturers so that its value may be clearly ascertained. From what we can infer it will become one of the most valuable materials for paper making. The following is Mrs. B's. account of it:

"From a single root that I transplanted there sprung up about twenty stalks, measuring from 15 to 17 feet each in height, having upwards of three hundred pods containing the cotton, with about fifty to sixty seeds in each pod. It can be planted in the spring and may be cut in the fall; it bleaches itself almost white as it stands in the field, and yields from three to four tons of good hemp or flax to the acre. The hemp or flax is the produce of the stalk, and the cotton is the head or bulb of the plant; it requires but little labor to cultivate it, for when once planted it will remain in the ground for several years, throwing out fresh shoots and stalks every year. The hemp (when stripped from the stalk) requires to be dressed, of course, and the flax should be hackled in the usual way; The cotton too should be dressed with a cotton gin, the same as they dress cotton grown in the South. I believe that this plant may be cultivated in any part of the world, and I think it will grow and thrive in almost any soil (if it is not too stiff,) but a rich black loam suits it best."

PISCACULTURE.

Since the publication of Dr. Garlick's numbers on the cultivation of fish, the subject has attracted the attention of a considerable number of persons in different parts of the country and particularly the legislators of several States and the Canadian Parliament. The Legislatures of New Hamshire and Massachusetts have appointed committees to report upon the practicability of restoring the Salmon to their waters. The New York State Agricultural Society too, has taken the subject under consideration and proposed measures for the encouragement of the business.

The Legislature of Connecticut at its last session appointed a committee to look after the subject of restocking her waters with salmon.

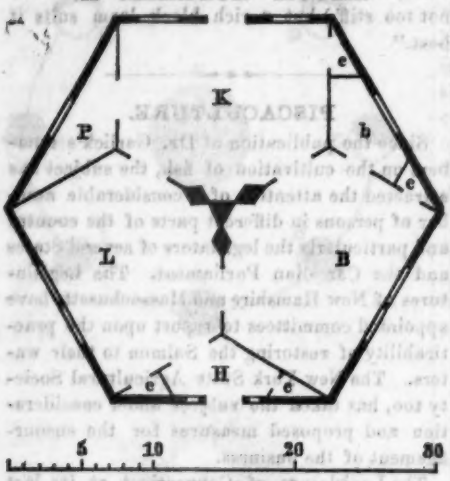
A company in that State has purchased the fishing rights of the proprietors of the Saltonstal lake, in the county of New Haven with the intention of stocking it with salmon and salmon-trout, by means of artificial propagation.—One of the parties concerned is a German who has successfully practiced the art in his own country. An act has been passed amply protecting the company in this enterprise, and prohibiting, under a heavy penalty, all fishing in the lake after the operation of stocking it shall have been commenced.

The company confidently expect to have a million of salmon hatched within a year. Since the subject has occupied the attention of the English and French governments the experiments in those countries have proved completely successful, not only with salmon and trout but with many kinds of still water fish.

There is hardly any subject now before the American people deserving more consideration. The immense number of streams and ponds that traverse almost every section of our land, are susceptible of being turned to great account this way. Many of these require no Legislative protection any more than the wheat or corn

that is growing in the farmer's field's, but general laws no doubt will be passed in many of our States protecting citizens in their rights in this matter, and we hope extending every encouragement necessary for the full development of our resources in this new and interesting branch of domestic culture.

A HEXAGON HOUSE.



Scale of feet.

H, is a hall; L, living room; K, kitchen; P pantry; B, bed room; b, bath room, and c c c c, are closets. L, B, and K contain each 155 square feet; P, 32; H and b each 25, and c c c c each 3 1-2. The length of each side (inside) is 15 feet; thickness of wall 9 inches.

The above plan is designed for a small, one-story cottage or farm house. It has the following advantages:

1. It encloses 90 square feet more than a house with the same amount of outside wall built in a square form. The difference is even greater as houses are generally built.

2. All the apartments are of easy access and convenient to each other.

3. It is divided to greater advantage, giving more available room, and providing for closets, which are very handy, besides saving the expense of some furniture and the room occupied by it, so that the actual gain of room is greater than above stated.

4. The flues being together occupy less space, and of course are less expensive.

And in addition to the above it is symmetrical, therefore beautiful.

The object of the double windows is to have the light come from one direction, as it is otherwise injurious to the eyes.

United States Agricultural Society—Great Trial of Mowers and Reapers at Syracuse, New York.

In our last we gave a brief notice of the great National trial of Harvest machines at Syracuse, in progress at the time our paper went to press.

As progress is the characteristic of the present day, we have thought, in the absence of the result of the judges decision, (which will not be made known until the opening of the great fair at Louisville,) that a brief notice of the working of some of the new machines might not be unimportant to our readers.

Before the close of the trial, the number of machines entered was ninety-six—some of these were subsequently withdrawn and a number of others gave out in some one part or another, owing probably to the uneven character of the land, which was well calculated to put every machine to the severest test. On Thursday and Friday, the 16th and 17th ult., the dynamometer was applied to each machine, and the weight of draft accurately ascertained, but the instrument being of a new construction, two of them were broken before the trial had progressed far, but finally an excellent one was procured of H. L. Emery, the inventor, which stood the test throughout the entire trial.

Many of the machines did most excellent work which without the notes of the judges and some knowledge of the comparative weight of draft it is not easy to determine which will prove the honored machines. Among those which attracted special attention were the following:—

Ball, Aultman & Co's. Mower, from Canton, Ohio, did most excellent work, as did also an entire new machine, made in Albany, N. Y., by Pryn & Lansing. Hallenbeck, of Albany, has greatly improved his mower; it is light, and was a favorite with many. Burrell's combined machine, as well as Ketchum's, did good execution, but the improvements in Ketchum's have not kept pace with those of more modern construction, with a wheel supporting the outer end of the cutting bar. The Ohio Harvester, made at Springfield, Ohio, proved an excellent reaper, but in grass it was thought others cut easier. Few machines did better work as a mower, than the Kentucky Harvester, but on applying the dynamometer the instrument broke which confirmed the impression of many that it was of heavy draft. Manny's patent, manufactured by Walter A. Wood, of Hoosek Falls, N. Y., as usual, seemed to be the great favorite, as doing good work and combining many

advantages both as a mower and reaper. But a new machine attracted unusual attention from a great number of farmers and manufacturers present. It was invented by P. Manny, father of the late J. H. Manny—the inventor of the machine, now so widely and favorably known, bearing his name. This machine embraces several new and important features. As a mower it was excelled by none on the ground. It is a combined machine, with a self-raking attachment of the most simple construction, and so arranged that it can be detached in a moment in cutting grain that is unfavorable for the operation of a self-raker. Seymour & Morgan's self-raking combined machine, performed well as a mower and appeared to run light.

On the 17th the reapers were tried in a field of tall rye, there being but little wheat in the vicinity. One acre and a half was set apart for each machine, but owing to the height of the grain no machine could perform as well as in wheat of the height to which reapers are generally adapted. The Ohio Harvester, Kirby's and Burrall's Reaper's all performed well; the Kentucky Harvester cut its acre and a half in sixty minutes, but did not lay its gavels as compactly as some others did. Seymour & Morgan's Self-Raker appeared to be one of the best machines of its kind before the people. But the self-raking qualities of P. Manny's machine gave universal satisfaction to the practical farmers present, and upon the more level fields of the great West it must prove a great favorite.

A most efficient and novel machine was on the ground known as Haine's Illinois Header. It cuts a swath ten feet wide, taking the heads of the grain, with twelve or more inches of the straw, and depositing them in a wagon which accompanies the machine in its rounds. This is done by the operation of a light, rotary apron. While one wagon is unloading and stacking its grain another attends the machine, and in this way twenty acres of wheat can be cut and stacked in a day, with much less waste of grain than when all the processes of handling and binding are gone through in the ordinary way. It is perfectly simple in its construction and of light draft and well calculated for harvesting on an extensive scale in the large fields of the great West. This machine was not tried in examination with the ordinary reapers, but its competition was deferred until Monday, the 20th, when many of the judges had left for their homes. But the performance of the machine justly entitled it to a special premium, which we have no doubt it will receive. It has been in successful operation in the West for a number of years past.

One of the most serious difficulties in the way of the successful operation of Mowing and Reaping Machines has been to overcome the *side-draft*. On some machines this has been such as to weary the horses more than all the legitimate labor of cutting the grass or grain. Besides the dynamometer, the efficient and intelligent superintendant, J. E. Holmes, of Newark, Ohio, invented and furnished for this occasion a simple and admirable instrument for the purpose of determining the amount of side draft of the various machines on trial. It is simply a neck yoke with a spring and index attached. Its operations was most satisfactory and will no doubt cause the manufacturers of these machines to employ means to entirely overcome this objection.

Taking it altogether this was the most important trial ever held in this country. The judges were men of great practical intelligence, selected from every quarter of the country and whose opinions were above price, so that whatever their decisions may be it will prove a reliable guide to farmers in the purchase of machines, until the prolific genius of American inventors shall carry their improvements beyond those now in use.

The Grand Gold medal to be awarded to the successful competitors, is upwards of three inches in diameter and is valued at $175.

DESCRIPTION—FACE.

On the face is Ceres, (Goddess of the Earth, Patroness of Agriculture,) seated upon a throne. In her right hand, which is elevated and extended forward in an attitude of invitation, she holds a wreath of honor; in her left the sickle—emblem of agricultural industry.—In her lap are gathered various fruits. Her brow is crowned with the star of Empire, and her expressive countenance manifests her dignified rank as the impartial disposer of awards to the competitors. Around the rim of the medal is the classic wreath of laurel, and within this are the words in Roman letters: "UNITED STATES AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—MDCCCLII.

DESCRIPTION—REVERSE.

The reverse side is ornamented simply with a wreath of plants the productions of the grand divisions of the United States, emblematic of the National character of the Society. On the other side are the Sugar Cane and Cotton Plant, on the other side the Indian Corn and Wheat, and at the bottom, uniting the two, is a grape vine laden with fruit and leaves. Thus the great staples of the North, South, East and West, are wreathed together, encircling a space appropriated for inscribing the name of the successful competitor.

The medal is also represented in silver and bronze which will be awarded to the second and third best machines.

STEAM PLOWING.

The construction of machines for pulverising the soil by steam power is now occupying the attention of some of the most eminent inventors, both in this country and in England. Experiments have been made on three different methods for this purpose, viz: by a locomotive engine, drawing one or more plows over the surface of the field, as a substitute for animal power; by propellling a rotary digger which shall pulverize the soil in a manner imitating the operation of spading, and by a stationary engine drawing the plows by ropes. We are inclined to regard the digging process as the only practicable one. In drawing a series of plows by a locomotive engine a considerable weight will be required to afford sufficient *traction* to overcome the resistance of the plows, and there is but little land sufficiently level and firm to admit of the movement of such a machine without great inconvenience and loss of power, as well as injury to the land, and by rope traction and a stationary power the wear and tear of the ropes across our large fields and the trouble of changing and adjusting them, we think will hardly be warranted by the labor gained, but with a simple locomotive applied to a rotary digger which may be light, cheap and so constructed as to overcome every objection to which the others are subject, and rendered available on the surface of almost any land not absolutely hilly.

In a recent article on this subject in the London (Eng.) *Engineer*, the writer holds that few appear to comprehend the weight of a traction engine necessary to serve as an anchor sufficient to overcome the resistance of the plows. The weight of an ordinary portable engine used in that country for threshing, is about three tons and it has generally been supposed that if the weight of an engine for plowing could be reduced to two tons, the great desideratum would be attained, and yet, at the trial on heavy land at Chelmsford, Boydell's traction engine weighed upwards of nine tons and proved too light for sustaining the resistance of five plows, each of four horse draft—total twenty horses—the endless rail or shoe slipped on several occasions, allowing the wheels to run round without advancing. Mr. McAdam in his report of a trial of a similar engine between Thetford and London, stated that such an engine must be heavier and not lighter than those now in use.

On steam culture, by rope traction, the English engineers are also divided in opinion, in regard to the advantages or practicability of that method. But upon the rotary plan we can see no serious obstacle in the way. The experiments that have been made in our country by horse power with this style of machine promise ultimate success, and with steam power the chief obstacles that have been met with may be entirely overcome.

We hope that the American inventors will give the subject due consideration and trial.

To Clean Chess out of Seed Wheat.

On our late visit to the farm of Mr. John Johnston, near Geneva, N. Y., he informed us that some years ago he was a believer in and an earnest advocate of, the theory that wheat would turn to chess. In some of the early volumes of the Genesee Farmer he cited several facts which had come under his observation, and which appeared to prove that, in spite of botanists and vegetable physiologists, wheat would turn to chess. This idea was combated by several correspondents of the Farmer; and, as Mr. J. confessed to us, he had to acknowledge to himself that he was worsted in this "paper war." Fully persuaded that he had the best side of the argument, and thinking that his opponents had the advantage simply because better skilled in the use of the pen, he resolved to prove beyond all controversy, by occular and practical demonstration, that wheat would turn to chess.

He took three bushels of wheat (we believe this is the quantity, but it is immaterial) and looked it over, grain by grain, picking out all the chess. When he had finished he was satisfied that there was not a grain of chess in the whole three bushels. Now, then, thought he, I shall have them; if I get chess from this wheat it won't do for them to tell me that I sowed chess with the wheat; and he had no doubt, that asusual he would have "lots of chess." The wheat was sown; and the result was, that while there was an abundance of chess in the wheat cleaned in the ordinary way, there was not a single ear of chess on the land sown with the clear wheat. This experiment which Mr. J. made in order to convince the theorists that wheat would turn to chess, had the effect of convincing him that he was in error, and that the great cause of chess in wheat must be ascribed to sowing chess with the seed wheat.

Once satisfied that wheat would not turn to cness, Mr. J. resolved to sow no more of it, and he hit upon a plan of cleaning seed wheat which took out every grain of chess. The method is simply this: After the wheat has been cleaned in the ordinary way, by running it through a fanning mill, take the riddles out of the fanning mill, leaving the screen in; take off the rod that shakes the riddles and screen; pour the wheat slowly into the hopper with a basket or a half bushel; turn the mill a little quicker than for ordinary cleaning, and every grain of of chess will be blown out, unless where three seeds stick together, which is sometmes the case with the top seeds. Two men will clean

from ten to fifteen bushels per hour. If the wheat is light, say weighing from fifty to fifty-five pounds per bushel, considerable wheat will be blown away with the chess; but where good Genesee wheat is raised, as in this section, weighing from sixty to sixty-four pounds to th, bushel, little or no wheat will be blown oute In some cases it is better to raise the hind end of the fanning mill about two inches from the floor; more wind can be given and not blow away the wheat.

Since Mr. Johnson adopted this method of cleaning his seed wheat, he has not raised a "wine glass full of chess in more than twenty years."

We may remark that the same practice is very generally adopted in England, not only in cleaning seed wheat, but in cleaning all their grains for market, more especially barley.

There is a high duty on the process of converting barley into malt (about seventy-five cents per bushel); and the malsters naturally do not wish to pay duty on barley of an inferior quality, or on light grains that will not germinate, or, consequently make malt. On this account farmers are particularly careful to clean their barley before sending it to market. It is first run through the fanning mill to separate the chaff from it; then through a machine to break off the "pales" or beards; and then again through a fanning mill with a finer set of riddles and screen. After this, the riddles are taken out, and the barley is run through as in the process above described. Many farmers have a machine on purpose for this work, and consider it indispensable. It is called a "Heaving Machine." A good sample of English barley when cleaned in this way will weigh fifty-six pounds per bushel. On Mr. Lawes' farm, at Rothamsted, we have known this experimental barley to weigh fifty-eight pounds per bushel. This great weight per bushel, however must not be attributed to the process of cleaning alone. It is more probably due to climate, inasmuch as the wheat, no matter how well it is cleaned, is not so heavy as Genesee wheat.

Mr. Johnston thinks every agricultural paper in the country should give this process of cleaning wheat, and urge their readers to adopt it. If any wheat grower will once try it, he will never again sow wheat without running it through a fanning mill in the way described.— *Genesee Farmer.*

[Written for the Valley Farmer.]

THE CHINCH BUG.

Messrs. Editors:—We are all inclined to think and talk about that which most nearly concerns us, and therefore I cannot refrain from making some remarks and also soliciting some information about that destructive insect known as the chinch bug. These insects have made their appearance the present season in this section of country, and from present indications they are going to prove very destructive not only on wheat and oats, but to the great staple of our western country—Indian corn. I had a patch of ten or eleven acres of fall wheat, which is enclosed on three sides with corn. I cut the wheat between the 13th and 18th of this month (July) and during the time of cutting I observed a few bugs running over the ground, but did not suspect that there were or would be enough to do any harm. On the next morning after I finished cutting I was passing along the edge of one piece of the corn next to the stubble and, behold! what a sight there met my eyes! The corn was blackened with these pestiferous insects from the ground to the height of two or three feet, not only on one stalk, but on every stalk in the hill. I did not count them but I am well convinced that there are thousands on every stalk. In many places they have the appearance of a swarm of bees settled on the boughs of a tree. At first they were only on a few of the outside rows, but they are spreading over the field very rapidly, and unless they are checked by some means they will undoubtedly destroy the whole crop. The corn on the other two sides of the wheat stubble, by some cause, is not so badly infested. To those not acquainted with the chinch-bug and its habits, these statements may appear fabulous; but, in order to show the authenticity of them I will introduce the statements of a writer in Vol. 10 of the "Prairie Farmer," I think, perhaps the editor. He says:

"It is not very generally spread, but its depredations are confined to particular sections of territory, to a field here and another there, generally within the limits of two or three counties. It sweeps clean as it goes, covering the plants of wheat or other grain in myriads, sucking up their juices till life is gone and the dead skeleton of vegetation only remains. The insect may be known by its villainous smell, it being of the bed bug tribe; but its color changes with its growth, or with the season."

For a faithful and exact description of the chinch-bug and its habits I would refer the reader to that given by Dr. Le Baron, of Geneva, Kane Co., Ill., found in Vol. 10, of the Prairie Farmer, page 280. The Doctor gives a very full and truthful description of these destructive insects, and it would be a great advantage to every farmer to read it, that he might be able to recognize them at first sight, and also to understand their habits so that he may be enabled to arrange his crops in that order which will most effectually guard against their depredations. For the benefit of the many readers of your journal I would suggest that at some convenient time you publish the Doctor's article, referred to above, in your columns.

I have resorted to every source within my limits for some information with regard to destroying or checking the ravages of these insects, and as yet have found nothing proposed except fire, which would undoubtedly be an infallible remedy, if we had some mode of applying it.

If any person is in possession of anything that will prevent or check their depredations he will bestow an everlasting benefit on his fellow beings by making it known through the columns of this or some other paper.

It is devoutly to be wished that naturalists

may turn their attention to these insects, and ere long give us some information with regard to their origin and progress that will enable us to destroy them before they destroy our crops.

I am now going on with some experiments with those on my corn, which, if they prove successful, I will communicate to your columns. Let every man who is molested by them try some experiments, and report his success. J. Gill.

Pleasant Vale, Ill., July 20th, 1857.

(Written for the Valley Farmer.)

THE CULTIVATION OF THE EARTH.

This, Messrs Editors, is the business to which your well-conducted periodical is devoted.—Though not a practical farmer myself, I am highly pleased to see such papers multiplying, and to see them made worthy of their increased and increasing circulation by the energy and talent devoted to them.

The cultivation of the earth, or farming, I regard as *one*, if not *the* most desirable employment of man. In some respects, it is a plain case, there is no employment will compare with it. The cultivation of the earth is indispensable to the sustenance of its inhabitants. Yes, all must see, that should this important business, to which your monthly is devoted stop, most people at least, must stop eating, and that of course would be a winding up of all business, all pleasure and of life itself.

The cultivator of the earth, furnishes the mechanic with the raw material for his business—the merchant with much of his articles of trade, and all professional men, as well all others, with food. Farming is the basis of all business, and when it embraces, as it usually does, and always should, horticulture and stock raising, it is the main spring of animal pleasure to all who eat and drink.

Farming is the hinge on which every other branch of business turns, to a great extent. Other branches are important in themselves, and by as much as they are dependent on the former, in the main, for success, it stamps the greater importance on his calling. He holds the keys of prosperity and pleasure for almost all other men. If he turns them in their favor, they are prosperous and happy, in a good degree, but wo to the men of other callings when the former turns his key adversely to their interests and comfort. This view of the subject is all sufficient to show that it ill becomes men of other callings to regard farming as a low calling, and the farmer as below par in society, And yet it is too often so, and in years gone by it was true to a most lamentable and criminal extent. Too often, it has been said of the noble, honest yeoman, "O! he is only a farmer," and his children have often been denied their proper place in society, simply because they were the children of farmers. But happily those days are passed away, it is hoped never to return, and notions so entirely at war with truth are generally abandoned, and the cultivator of the earth is coming to be regarded according to his great worth to community, and his real dignity among his fellow citizens.

But the cultivation of the earth is not only desirable and important; it is really *honorable* in itself. This will appear, if we consider that agriculture, horticulture and the rearing and tending of fruits was the business to which our common father was directed by his Creator when first he came from his all forming hand. "And the Lord God took the man and put him into the garden of Eden, to *dress* it and to *keep* it. And Adam gave names to all *cattle* and to the *fowl* of the air, and to every *beast* of the field."

The farmer then, in pursuing his calling, acts in accordance with the design of his creation, and follows the direction of his infinitely wise and rightful sovereign. This surely is honorable and should be commended by all. But further, the cultivation of the earth shows a quiet submission to the penalty annexed to the transgression of our common parents. The penalty was, "The Lord God sent him—Adam—forth from the garden of Eden, to *till* the *ground*, from whence he was taken," with the assurance that "in the sweat of his face he should eat his bread."

Such is the will of the Creator, the duty of man, and the only honorable course for him to pursue, is quietly and cheerfully to submit.—This the farmer does. He *tills* the *ground*—he toils and sweats and thus procures his bread. It is always honorable to submit to proper authority. It is dishonorable not to regard such authority, and as far as possible to disallow it.

All must see then that readily and cheerfully to acknowledge, as the farmer does, the high authority of heaven, and voluntarily to yield to its requisitions, is honorable in a high degree. Consider again that the cultivator of the earth acts for the *general good*. All, as we have seen, are dependent on him in no small degree, and all are benefitted by his labors. He is a producer, and is constantly adding to the general stock of wealth, as well as to his own private property. To him belongs the high honor, of not living and laboring entirely for himself, but for the general good—for the benefit of all.

Finally, consider the *independence* of the cultivators of the earth. In this respect, they stand head and shoulders above men of most other callings. Civil and political changes, either at home or abroad, which often produce great depression and confusion in the business of others, and not unfrequently entirely break them up, effect the farmer but little if at all. He goes steadily on from year to year, producing for himself and others, all the substantial articles of living, and constantly adding more or less, to his property. He is dependent, but to a small extent on others, and can live well, from his own resources alone. But this cannot be said of others in relation to him. All are dependent on him and cannot live without his aid. But *independence* is always regarded as honorable. It is so. And this honor, preeminently belongs to the cultivators of the earth—the industrious farmers.

But I ought to say in this, my apology for the farmer, that his business is preeminently *healthy*. Vigorous exercise is essential to good

health. But much depends upon the kind of exercise that is taken. All admit, I think, who are qualified to judge, that manual labor is the best, and of that there is none equal to the cultivation of the earth. The reason is obvious. The exercise is taken in the open air—all parts of the system are pretty uniformly exercised—and then the odor of the newly plowed ground—the newly mowed hay, and the multitude of full blown flowers, of almost all varieties, and the cheerful gloom of spirits, occasioned by his independence, his conscious dignity, and the fair prospect of an ample reward for his labors, all combine to make his calling healthy, and his person robust, strong and vigorous.

Finally, (for I must stop for the want of space and time to say more,) the farmer's business is *pleasant*. It is pleasant to break up, and cultivate the rich and productive soil—to plant and sow the good and appropriate seed—to witness the springing blade, and the uniform and rapid growth of the varied vegetables. It is pleasant to see them hastening to the desired maturity, and especially pleasant when the golden harvest comes in, "to shout the harvest home." It is pleasant to feed and attend the stock—to observe their growth to witness the docility of the ox, the cow and the horse, and the great sagacity of the latter. Who then, would not be a farmer? J. G.

Brownsville, Kansas Territory.

(For the Valley Farmer.)

Crops, &c. in Kansas.

Messrs. Editors.—It may subserve the cause to which your paper is devoted for me to state that in this region the potato crop is being devoured by insects, and inquire of your numerous correspondents, if there is any means by which their ravages can be stopped, and the crop saved when once they have begun the work of destruction?

There are two kinds of insects engaged in this work of mischief. A striped bug and a large worm of varied colors, called by some the "tobacco worm." They attack the stalk and in a very short time divest it of every leaf, and acres are made leafless in a few days. They commenced their depredations among us in the latter part of June.

With us the drouth is very severe; is that probably the cause of it? Should plentiful rains come on soon, will the stocks probably revive, and still yield a crop? Or, is the mischief referred to, when done, a finality? Can anything be done in such a case to prevent, or remedy this evil? and if so, what, how and when?

Permit me to state another difficulty and make an inquiry naturally suggested. I bought seed wheat last spring and sowed it. Of course I bought it for spring wheat, but when sowed and up, a part of it proved to be winter wheat. Instead of shooting up stout as spring wheat is used to do, it spread and stooled out, and lies nearly flat on the ground. At present there is no appearance of its heading. It is a plain case that it will come to nothing this season.

The inquiry I wish to make is, will it be likely, if left undisturbed, to make anything next year? Is there any thing that can be done, by feeding or mowing it, which will be likely to help the case? Such cases have no doubt occurred before, and the result is well known, I dare say, to some one to whom this will have access through the Farmer. I hope we shall be told all about it, and also in regard to the trouble in respect to the potatoes referred to, by some of the many, who love to help on the cause of agriculture, and aid their less experienced coadutors in the cause.

I regret to say that the present prospect of a crop in this territory is by no means encouraging. The soil seems to be all that could be wished for and a good portion of it is already under cultivation, considering the recent date of our first settlement and the great hindrances we have had to contend with, but the season has been, and still is unfavorable. The winter wheat was almost an entire falure—it being frozen out. The spring was cold and backward; most of the seed was late in. Much of the corn did not come up well; and now, as already stated, the drouth is very severe—the weather extremely hot, and vegetation generally withering.

But we still hope that Kansas is destined to act a conspicuous part on the agricultural stage. Our soil is almost without limit, in regard, either to its richness, or its extent. Our population is rapidly increasing, and most of them come prepared with teams and the implements of husbandry for doing up the work off hand. One of the first acts of the Legislature at its late session, was to charter a State Agricultural Society. The home market is, and for many years no doubt will be good. Indeed, it may be confidently hoped that the market will always be tolerable I think; for by the time that the home market may be expected to fail somewhat, we shall no doubt have Rail Roads in succe-sful operation. Yes, I think that we may confidently expect that within a few years, the Railroad from the Atlantic to the Pacific will pass through our borders and send out its branches into all parts of our territory. The enterprise I know is vast—its contemplation is sublime. But it must be done. The unity of this great nation its interests and its convenience demand it, and no obstacle can, or will long prevent it. J. Gillpatrick.

Brownsville, Kansas Ter. July 16th 1857.

Remarks.—The article of our correspondent was delayed by the mail until after our August number went to press. In order to save the potato vines we have seen recommendations to put ashes or lime in coarse sacks and then shake the sacks over the vines. Some say that these insects—the striped bug or fly—are so clumsy that if beaten off the vines on the ground they will not attack the vines again—but we have doubts of this. The large worm you speak of, if not prevented by the dust of the lime or ashes must be destroyed as they are when they attack tobacco. We have no experience in sowing winter wheat in the spring, but presume there is no treatment which will cause it to produce a crop the following year. C.

Stock Raising Department.

Somethtng New--Market Car Company.

Within the last few years there has been an alarming increase in the price of almost all kinds of food, with a prospect of a continued advance, especially in animal food. The cause of this, in the first place is, the supply does not keep pace with the demand, and in the next place the animal passes through too many hands before it reaches the consumer, each making a living profit in the business. These facts render it extremely difficult for poor people in the cities to live and support in comfort their families. To obviate, in some degree, these difficulties a company has been organized and incorporated in the city of New York for the purpose of supplying that and other eastern cities with fresh meat at greatly reduced prices. The company proposes to go back of all the traffickers and purchase its meats directly of the farmers in the Western States. The animals will be taken from the stalls and pastures in the West, and the meat will be killed and hung up in large, dry, cooling rooms and kept perfectly pure, where no dust can reach it and where it is so cool that a fly cannot live. When the meat has become perfectly cool it is placed in what are termed the refrigerating cars, the chamber of which is filled with ice. The cars are so arranged that they are united with the cooling room in such a manner that the warm air from without cannot come in contact with the meat in its passage from the room to the cars. When the cars are thus filled, the door is shut and sealed, and from the time the meat is hung up in the car until the seal is broken in the city it is kept in a temperature of 40 to 45 degrees. The ice chamber is supplied every two or three days, and at the end of a week from the time the beef or mutton is dressed it arrives in the destined market. Meat thus kept in the cool, dry air of the refrigerator is better and sweeter than that recently killed; this is evident to every one who has observed the effects of keeping meat in winter. Another great advantage of this plan is the healthy condition of the meat over that which is transported alive from 500 to 1000 miles in confined cars, without regular food or water. Such confinement must necessarily render almost every animal more or less diseased by the time it reaches its destination. From the great distance at which the most of the animals are now transported to market by rail road, very few, we think, arrive in a purely healthy state. The consumption of such meat must have a very injurious effect upon the health of the inhabitants.

We shall be glad to see this plan universally established; by it the farmers of the West will share in its advantages.

BEEF.

For many years an extensive trade has been carried on between New York and other eastern cities and South America, in hides. Many thousands of cattle are sacrificed upon the plains of South America for their hides alone, which amount to many cargoes annually, while the carcases, affording the best of beef are allowed to decay upon the plains where they are slain. Recently one of the enterprising citizens of Kentucky returned from a successful trip to Mexico with a large drove of mules, which are to be summered in the Kentucky pastures and then offered in market. This experiment we have no doubt will prove a very profitable one and will probably be repeated by others for years to come.

This fact suggests to us whether something may not be done by way of procuring beef from the South American cattle that are now being sacrificed in such large numbers. Beef has become an important item, both in our western as well as eastern markets, the price having advanced one or two hundred per cent within the last few years, with a prospect of a still further increase.

Now, whether the cattle from South America can be transported to our Atlantic States alive by sea to a profit we will not pretend to say. It has been intimated that neither the wild cattle of Mexico or from the Savannas of Venezuela can be domesticated so as to eat or drink, and that they will die of hunger and thirst before they will partake of either while in confinement. But one thing is quite evident, that with proper arrangements the beef and tallow may be saved and turned to valuable account, if some enterprising individuals would go to that country prepared to introduce a more economical system in killing these cattle. An immense amount of salt beef is required for our army and navy, besides for domestic purposes, and we see no reason why a large proportion of this supply may not be derived from this source.—There is no better or healthier meat than that of wild animals, and we think the experiment is well worth investigation and trial.

CLOSE BREEDING.

There has long been a controversy among men on the subject of close breeding, some contending that it is very injurious, others that it is not seriously objectionable. By close breeding is meant, breeding by animals of near affinity of blood. It is contended by the objectors to close breeding, that fowls, sheep, hogs, and cattle that are bred for a long series of years in the same flocks, without the addition of any alien blood from other flocks or breeds, surely degenerate and become less useful. And this is given to account for the unserviceable fowls, the gaunt hogs, the weakly sheep and the scrawny cattle that are so frequently found on old farms, and among old-style farmers. Those who see no objections to close breeding cite many examples of it to sustain their views, such as Flying Childers, a horse of unrivalled beauty and speed, known to have been closely bred; the Darby Game fowl, bred at Knowsley Park for several hundred years without change from the blood of the original stock; the pair of wild geese brought by Col. Jaques, of Sommerville, Miss., from Canada, in 1818, whose stock at this time, bred in a direct line from the original pair without the addition of any strain of new blood, is not in the least degenerated. But notwithstanding these isolated cases of the seeming safety of close breeding, we must give our testimony strongly against it. We cannot but feel that close breeding among human creatures or animals is generally attended with bad effects. It is true, cousins may sometimes marry with safety to their offspring, but it is very common that bad results are known to follow. We have seen nor read of no great man or woman the offspring of cousins. And we believe that the children of cousins are generally inferior to their parents. The same physiological laws are in action in both human and animal creatures. It is a law we believe of human physiology that similarity of temperament is unfavorable to the offspring, while dissimilarity of temperament is favorable. Now it is a general rule that similarity of temperament obtains in families. This will be especially the case if families should breed in-and-in for several generations. Even in this view of the subject it is best often to seek favorable crosses in breeding animals.

It is well known that the barn-yard fowls on many farms are very unserviceable. It is known too that this is not for the want of good fair, shelter, &c. It is known also that in many instances these fowls have been bred-in for many years without a single fowl from any other flock being added. The inference is very plausible that close breeding has affected them unfavorably.

We know a woman whose hens have for several years been very serviceable. She is the wife of an intelligent and successful farmer, and she laughs at the mania for foreign fowls. She thinks she can show as large eggs and as many from a hen, as much profit with as little expenditure as anybody. Her plan has been for many years to breed from her best hens, to set only the largest eggs. If she sees a fowl in any neighbor's yard that is very fine, she buys it or swaps for it; if she sees a very large egg elsewhere, she secures it if possible; thus constantly bringing new strains of promising blood. Her fowls are large, healthy, and thrifty. Being well cared for every way, they are very productive and serviceable.

We believe this is the best plan to secure useful fowls. The same general principles will apply to raising all kinds of stock.

[For the Valley Farmer.]

VALUABLE REMEDIES.

Messrs. Editors:—Being in possession of some remedies that are certain cures for the worst diseases that horse flesh is heir to, I wish to communicate them to the public in some tangible form, so that they may not be lost to posterity. If the following directions are strictly followed, the cure is certain and safe beyond cavil:

FOR SWEENEY.

Try the grease out of one pound of old fat bacon, and just as it begins to harden add the whites of five or six eggs and as much salt as it will dissolve. Rub the horses shoulder on the sunken part for 10 or 15 minutes with thir ointment with a cob, and then sear it in with a hot iron; repeat it twice with an itermission of three days, and the horse is cured. If the application is made early, once searing will be sufficient. Three applications are only needed where the horse has long been neglected.

FISTULA AND POLL EVIL.

In the first stages of these diseases, they may be driven back or scattered by a very simple application. Take a piece of thick cotton batting and saturate it in Venice turpentine; lay it on the diseased part of the horses withers or back of his head as it may be, fistula or pole evil; grease around the batting or margin of the swelling, sear it in with a hot iron and smith's tongs. The batting will very soon dry. It must be wet as often as the third time with turpentine before the twitch is taken off the horses lip. Repeat this process the third time with an intermission of four or five days. If the disease has progressed long, and superation commenced stick a knife in the orifice about 3 inches deep, and insert 60 grains of arsenic to the bottom of

the incission with a stick. The horse must be kept out of the rain till the arsenic has had time to be expelled from the wound, but it should be kept in till it is all carried off by the sluffing of the wound, then it should be washed twice a day with a decoction of poke root and cast steel soap suds. The arsenic must be tied up in a piece of book muslin or other thin muslin. In about three weeks the arsenic will have eaten all of the diseased flesh around the centre or core. There will be formed on the surface a fungus growth of grizzly substance, the size of a man's fist, with a shank perhaps an inch and a half in diameter, running deep into the shoulder; cut this off as low down as practicable. After the blood has ceased to flow sprinkle some arsenic in the bottom of the sore. In two or three days wash the sore with the poke root soap suds. Apply dry calomel after the heal-process has commenced.

I have cured many horses in this way after they had been given up as incurable and worthless, and they made about as good farm horsas as any I had.

BIG HEAD

May be cured with very little trouble. A horse with the big head becomes stiff all over, and the large muscles leading from the eye to the nostril become perfectly rigid. Annoint those mucles well with the oil of Cedar and sear it in with a hot iron three or four times, with an intermission of six or seven days, but rub the oil on every day. Take a piece of poke root about as large as a goose egg, put it in 6 quarts of water and boil down to 3 quarts; drench the horse with one pint of it every other day as long as it lasts; fill the drenching bottle with a pint of fresh water after the poke tea has been put in it.

This prescription has cured horses when they were so very stiff that they could scarcely step over a door sill six inches high.

SCOURS IN FOALS.

All colts have scours whose dams are bad sucklers and are deprived of good pasturage; consequently the foal has to eat too much grass and weeds,—the result is scours. Whereas, a mare that gives abundant suck the foal feeds but little, and gets its nourishment from the dam. *Egg Nogg* will cure the worst form of this disease, given twice a day until the complaint begins to subside. The egg nog should be made just as he who administers it would like to drink it himself, made of loaf sugar, old Bourbon, or Jamaica spirits; Cognac would be preferable, but that is an article that *was*. As John Randolph said, "There was once gentlemen in Virginia." S.

St. Louis county. Mo.

BREAKING COLTS AND OTHER ANIMALS.—A few leading rules may be laid down as of universal application in the management of animals which we wish to subdue and control.

1. No person is fit to govern an animal, who has not complete *self*-control; the first moment that he feels anger or irritation of temper he should resign his office.

2. The utmost kindness and gentleness must be used on all occasions, so far as is consistent with a convincing exercise of superior power.

3. Whenever the whip is used, it is of vital importance that only a *single blow* be struck at a time; for while a single blow produces dread of its repetition, several blows are followed by fury and resentment.

These rules should never be departed from.—*Country Gentleman.*

TO CHOOSE A GOOD MILK COW.

Select from a good breed. We prefer the Devons—bright bay red. The Durhams are roan, red, white and mixtures of these colors. Ayreshire cows are generally red and white spotted. Herefords, red or darker colored, with white faces. Alderneys, pale red and mixed with white. These are the principal colors of the several breeds, of which the Durhams are the largest and Alderneys the smallest. Different individuals will contend for each breed being the best and only one that should be selected for their milking qualities. But animals of each breed, and crosses of them, often prove remarkable milkers, and so do some of the native stock of the country. Two families of cows, one owned by Col. Jaques of Ten Hills Farm, near Charlestown, Mass., and one owned by Maj. John Jones, of Wheatland Farm, near Middletown, Delaware, were called native breed.

If we were about selecting a milk cow, we would endeavor to get one out of such a herd of good milkers; one with a soft, velvety feeling skin, slim neck, fine legs, broad stern, with what is called a large escutcheon, that is, the hair of the stern pointing inward; a large udder, slim teats, and large veins, commonly called milk veins, on the belly. Above all things selelect your cow of a gentle, pleasant countenance, because a first rate milker may be so vicious as to be worthless. Do not look for flesh, as the best cows are seldom fat; their hip bones are often very prominent, and they have the appearance of being low in flesh. A beefy cow is seldom a good milker.

The next thing is, what is a good milker? That is, how much milk must she yield per day? A cow that will average five quarts of milk a day through the year, making 1,825 quarts is an extraordinary good cow. One that will yield five quarts a day for ten months is a good cow, and one that will average four quarts during that time is more than an average quality. That would make 1,200 quarts a year, which at three cents a quart, is $36. We believe the Orange County milk dairies average about $40 per cow, and the quality of the cows is considerably above the average of the country.

It is as important to keep a cow good as it is to get her good. This can never be done by a careless, lazy milker. Always milk your cow quick perfectly clean, and never try to counteract nature by taking away her calf. Let it suck, and don't be afraid "it will butt her to death." It will distend the udder and make room for the secretion of milk. Be gentle with yourcow and you will have a gentle cow. Select well, feed well, house well, milk well, and your cow will yield well.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

VALUE OF CLOVER HAY.

Mr. H. Capron, of Illinois informs the *Country Gentleman* that he is largely interested in the dairy business, (having sold $6,000 worth of milk in a single year,) and states that he has made accurate experiments to test the comparative value of timothy and clover hay. These experiments extend through a period of two years, were attended with accurate weighing and measuring, and the food was changed from timothy to clover and from clover back to timothy, once a month, and the results were that the clover hay uniformly yielded ten per cent more milk than the timothy. This experiment was extended through a long period, clearly establishing the superiority of the clover.

We will here refer to one fact that too often impairs the value of clover hay, and not unfrequently rendering it very inferior as fodder, and often injurious to the stock fed upon it. We allude to the want of care and skill too often manifest, in curing this crop. Clover being more succulent requires longer time to properly cure, and it is of that character that it is more liable to be injured by wet than any other, and hence hay caps could be used in case of rain to great advantage.

Clover hay is ruined by careless handling more than any other crop. This need not be the case; every year the papers detail the proper method of curing the crop, which is perfectly simple and only requires to be observed to be successful.

[Written for the Valley Farmer.]

An Essay on the Rearing, Management and Food of the Horse.

Editors of the Valley Farmer:—It is not my intention to make invidious distinctions between the various breeds of horses in our country, yet I must think that, without some attention to blood and judicious crossing, the best of management, in other respects, will prove a failure, and be unprofitable to the raiser.

It may be thought that the thorough bred race stock belongs entirely to the turf, yet we think a cross of the thorough blood is best for almost every purpose, and the thorough bred mare is the best brood mare, for all purposes.

She being crossed with the Northern trotter, the produce will be a superior harness horse,—with the Canadian or pacer, you will have the best saddle horse,—with the draft-horse, you will have a horse of more action, durability, longevity and a better farm horse, than if a full draft horse, and so for the above purposes, the cross will produce a better animal, with more symmetry and action than he would be without the thorough bred cross; and finally a mule from a thorough bred mare, will be a better animal and command more money in market than a mule from a large, coarse mare; hence the propriety of obtaining the most thorough bred mares to breed from.

There should be great care and judgment exercised in selecting a sire, who excels in those parts in which the dam is defective, as there is no horse perfect; a sire may be defective in those parts that excel in the dam, unless your object be to produce a saddle, or fast-moving animal. In that case, let the dam be fine as she may, never breed to a horse that has a defective shoulder or limbs. As it is an admitted principle, that like begets like, great care should be exercised, that the sire be a hale, sound animal, free from those diseases which are hereditary, such as blindness, thick wind, ring bone, &c. Let him be possessed of a noble and docile disposition. A horse with a sullen, slyish and vicious disposition can never be made a pleasant and safe animal.

A great and very common error in breeding is to cross a small, compact dam with a large, overgrown sire, the object being to increase the size of the offspring above that of the dam. The result is a disproportioned colt, having, perhaps, the large head and feet of the sire, with long legs, and the light body and short neck of the dam. The sire may be somewhat larger than the dam, but it is certainly somewhat safer to have the dam a large, lengthy animal, (but compact) with ample room for the fœtus to develop, bred to a horse of medium size than the reverse. We think there is as much, if not more depending upon the qualities of the dam, than there is upon those of the sire, and if we had a small, coarse bred mare we would dispose of her to those who differ from us in opinion, rather than breed her. A mare may be moderately worked while in foal, until within a few weeks of the time for dropping it. She should not be too fat, or the foal will be lean and weak at first. She may be moderately worked while suckling. She should be fed on grain in a trough low enough for the colt to learn to eat. It should be handled and learned to lead while suckling, and left in the best condition for weaning and standing the winter. It should be well stabled with the privilege of running on a rye field the first winter. If it is suffered to become poor, its limbs will twist; it will become stunted in growth, which no after treatment will fully counteract. Nor should it be kept too fat after the first winter, nor forced to maturity too soon, or you may give it a kind of hot-bed growth which will greatly impair its future value.

There are many fine animals greatly injured (especially in their breeding qualities) by being forced to maturity too soon, to exhibit them at our agricultural fairs.

BREEDING.

At two years old the colt should be broke, and may be put to light and moderate work; to do which, a kind, soothing course should be pursued; very much such a course as a judicious parent would pursue with his child—first teaching it that you are its friend, and do not wish to hurt it. It will soon love and fear you and as soon as it learns your will, it will obey you.—

This discipline can be exercised with the bridle and whip, very light applications of the latter generally prove sufficient. Accustom it to, and familiarize it with the saddle before it is mounted, and with the harness before it is required to draw. The horse is the most noble and docile of all animals, and with the above course of treatment carried out with proper discrimination, there will be but little trouble in making him a pleasant and profitable animal, unless he be one of those vicious exceptions to the general character of his species—in which case a little more severity will be required. There has been many a fine animal neglected until he was grown and then forced into subjection by cruelty, which is shocking to humanity, and thus become heart broken before subdued, and rendered comparatively useless. The colt should not be oppressed with heavy burthen until fully grown. It may be ridden at two years old by a light rider moderately, but if too much weight be put upon it, it may injure its spine, crook its limbs, make it sway backed and a stumbler, A filly may be put to service much sooner than a colt, as she matures quicker.

FOOD AND WATER.

Our rich soil and its products, together with our mode of farming in Kentucky, do not compel us to resort to the many articles of food which are generally used in Europe, such as beans, barley, roots, chaff, &c., nor does economy require it. We prefer selling the barley to the brewer, feeding the groom with the beans, and the chaff, &c., to an inferior class of stock. We think corn, oats, rye, hay, grass and fodder cheapest and best food for horses; and if properly prepared and judiciously given are all that the horse requires as food, but the too common practice of feeding corn in the ear as a constant diet is objectionable. It is neither healthy for the horse; nor is it economical. It is liable to make him feverish and constipated in his bowels, and predisposes him to scratches and other diseases, while at the same time experience teaches us that eight ears of corn crushed is a better feed and will keep a horse in better condition than twelve fed to him without crushing. There is no better feed for the horse that works on the farm than rye meal or crushed corn, mixed with cut rye straw, or sheaf oats cut fine, and (if not freezing weather) moistened with water. The rye straw is the most economical, will keep the horses' bowels in better condition than the cut oats, and is but little inferior to it in nutriment. There is no feed that will put flesh on the horse quicker. This feed is objectionable for the saddle or harness horse, when quick, hard work is required. It distends his stomach too much, causing it to impair the action of the lungs, making him short winded and sluggish, impairing digestion and rendering him liable to cholic. For such service feed him on shelled oats, hominy and corn blades. Horses should be fed regularly, their diet should be often changed, and not more given at a time than they will eat. It is better for them to quit with appetites than to leave food in their troughs to sour. The work horse, (when stabled) should have his manger always filled with good hay or fodder. Clover hay is best, if properly cured, but a dusty, mouldy article is inferior to rye straw. Corn blades is perhaps the best provender that the horse can have, and he is fonder of it than of any other; but it requires more labor to save it than comports with good economy unless it be in a season of drought like the present, when the grass has failed. When the horse has to be stabled, it is good to soil him occasionally with clover or grass but when practicable we prefer his running out at night and selecting for himself.

The horse should be regularly watered as often as he needs it; he frequently suffers for want of it, especially in winter. Do not turn him out to eat snow, from laziness to water him. It matters not how much or upon what you feed him; without a bountiful supply of water he will necessarily be in bad condition. Cistern or pond water, is better than spring or well or any hard water; he will have a better coat and be less liable to gripes, after using the one, than he would, if required to drink the other.

STABLING AND MEDICINE.

There is nothing more common or much more cruel than to see this noble animal, after rendering his master good service, returned fatigued to a contracted and filthy stall, in a dark and unventilated stable, and there tied by the neck with a rope inviting him to hang himself to get clear of such cruelty. A stable should be constructed so as to afford a free circulation of air and light, with large, roomy stalls, (closed stalls are best) but if for want of room it be necessary to tie the horse, have a leather head stall with a rope rein; pass it through an augur hole in the manger, attach a weight to the lower end. The horse can then stand up to the trough, or step back and lie down without being entangled with the rope. Pure fresh air is necessary for man or beast, and if a stable be closed the air will be hot and foul; and being often breathed it becomes contaminated, injuring the circulation of the blood, impairing the healthful action of the lungs. It destroys digestion and health. Although a free circulation of air is essential to the health of the animal, care should be exercised that the wind blow not upon him; a fresh current of air blowing upon his head will give him cold, cough, &c. We hope the day is past when any rack will be permitted to remain in a stable, from which the horse will fill his eyes with hay seed, and then pull down and waste his hay and fill his trough with litter. There should be good mangers constructed with troughs by their sides roomy and tight that feed be not wasted; and to insure regular salting, which is very important, have a box constructed within reach of the horse, and keep in it a constant supply of salt and wood ashes, or a little lime that the horse may use it at pleasure. We think the lime or ashes promotes appetite, prevents worms and adds to general health. The importance of light in stables is not generally duly appreciated. Man or beast confined for a time in a dungeon and then brought to a glaring light, the eyes will be sensibly affected by it, and a fre-

quent repetition of it will produce blindnes. There is nothing more injurious to the eyes of a horse than to be confined in a dark, filthy stable, straining his eyes through a crack or small opening to behold the light of day. Hence the propriety of removing all filth and smell from his stable. The ammonia produced from the decomposition of litter, urine, &c., in a close, confined stable, fermented and heated, produces a noxious vapor, very injurious to the eyes and general health of the horse, and if disease, such as cronic cough, inflammation of lungs, break out among your horses, where such impurities exist, it is not to be wondered at.

MEDICINE.

The old adage of an ounce of preventive being better than a pound of cure, is very applicable in the treatment of horses, no less so than in the treatment of the "ills to which flesh is heir" in man. There is no doubt but it is with horses as it is with the human family in the hands of quack doctors, that more are killed than are cured by the administration of medicine. The common practice among farmers is, when a horse is sick, to say, Oh! he has the cholic, or that he has the bots, (a disease, the dangerous existence of which is much doubted by modern writers) and they will go to work without a proper knowledge of his disease, and give him drench upon drench of whisky, gunpowder, turpentine and other inflammatory drugs to cure him of a cholic or bots, when perhaps the disease is inflammation of the bowels, if so, every drench they have given him is like pouring oil upon fire, and served rather to aggravate than to mitigate or allay the disorder, so that the horse is much more apt to die than if left to nature for a cure. But it is not my object to write a treatise on Medicine at this time, but merely to show the danger and cruelty of administering medicine to the noble animal without a proper diagnosis, and the practical advantage of preventing diseases over that of an attempt to cure them by an application of inappropriate remedies. And we now assert without fear of contradiction that if the horse be properly fed upon judiciously prepared food, regularly watered, stabled, salted, kindly treated and made comfortable as above directed, he will render good service until old age, without much disease.

The horses used by the farmer, suchas saddle, harness and the plough and wagon horse, should receive the same general treatment (and food) with the exception above made, where quick, hard work is required. The voluminous nature of our subject prevents us from giving more than some general outlines in the present essay. Much must be left to the common sense of the farmer, without which he will not succeed well with horses or any other stock.

L. L. D.

Jefferson Co., Ky.

Shelter for Stock.

Soon the cold storms of winter will be here, and provision should now be made, if it has not been, to shelter all the stock, It is not only cruel, but it is the worst economy to subject stock to the cold winter weather without shelter. So see to it, brother farmers, that you provide good warm shelter for your cattle, horses, sheep, hogs. They will keep much easier and thrive much faster if they have comfortable quarters. Recollect, "a merciful man is merciful to his beast."

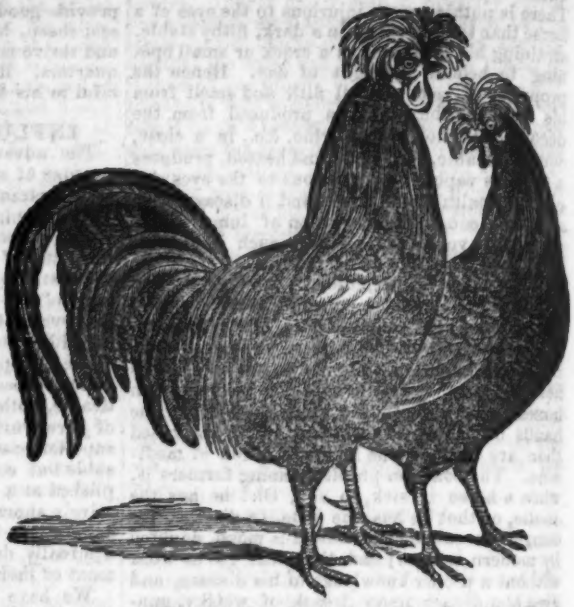
INFLUENCE OF THE MALE.

The advantage arising from the judicious crossing of stock, is no longer a matter of doubt or uncertainty, and we are pleased to observe an awakening interest on the subject, which promises excellent results. An examination of the cattle of very many of our best agricultural districts, must satisfy every unprejudiced mind of the absolute necessity that exists, for improvement of some kind, whether it be produced by the importation of improved breeds of cattle to supercede the present stock, or by judicious crossing. The first method is impracticable, both from the high price and scarcity of pure Durhams, Devons, Hereford and other superior breeds. The second is not only practicable but commendable, as it may be accomplished at a reasonable cost, and in a comparatively short space of time. We present a few suggestions for the consideration of those who are really desirous of attempting the improvement of their stock by judicious crossing.

We have high authority for asserting that "the *male* is the parent, from motives of sense and sound policy to which we can alone look for the improvement of our live stock." Mr. Berry, in a prize essay asserts "that only one rational course can be adopted by breeders, viz: that of resorting to the *best male*, a simple and efficacious method of improving such stocks as require improvement, and the only one proceeding by which stock already good, can be preserved in excellence." If then, the influence of the male is the predominating one in reproducing, the course of the farmer whose stock is susceptible of and requires improvement, is a very clear one. If he desires to secure particular excellencies for his flock, he should select a male in which these excellencies have their fullest devevelopement; and whose points in other respects are free from blemish. But perfection in all his points does not alwaps constitute a desirable animal for breeding purposes, for, unless he is a descendant of a series of projenitors which were also perfect in all their points, their faults, whatever they might have been, will most probably appear in his issue, and thus wholly defeat the intentions and expectations of the owner. But, if having found an animal which combine the precise excellencies he is desirous of securing to his stock, he can trace his pedigree through a series of unblemished predecessors, steady and persevering efforts and attention, will be certainly followed by success. The introduction of a bull, possessed of the desirable characteristics referred to, into a neighborhood where only common and inferior stock is to be found, would prove of incalculable advantage, while the cost of purchase might be borne respectively by the several parties who desired his services. By such an arrangement, the expenses to each farmer would be comparatively light.—*Ex.*

Black White-crested Poland Fowls.

We present our readers with a cut representing the Black white-crested Poland fowls. The color of this breed is uniformly black, with a large tuft of white feathers rising from a fleshy protuberance on the head. The weight of a full sized hen of this breed is about four pounds, and of a cock about five or five and a half pounds.—This breed is said to be excellent layers. They are sometimes called "everlasting layers," as they are probably less inclined to set than any other breed. It is usual to set their eggs under other breeds as most of them make poor nurses, while some of them make excellent ones. They are very beautiful, excellent for the table, their flesh being juicy and of a rich flavor. The chicks are tender in their early days, which taken in connexion with their being bad setters and nurses, will probably prevent their being generally adopted. But the beauty of their form and feathering, and their quiet disposition will induce amateurs at least to keep them.



To keep Fowls free from Vermin.

There are several kinds that infest the hen. By attending to the following remedy they will be entirely kept clear. First of all, if in confinement, in the dust corner of the poultry house mix about half a pound of black sulphur among the sand and lime that they dust in. This will give the feathers a glossy appearance. If infested with the insects, damp the skin under the feathers with a little water; then sprinkle a little black sulphur on the skin. Let a bird be covered with these insects, and they will all disapear in the course of twelve hours. Also previous to setting a hen, if the nest be slightly sprinkled with the sulphur, there is no fear of the hen being annoyed by them. Many a fine hatched brood pines away and dies through nothing else, when no one knows the cause. Having had an ostrich under my care that was pining, when looking into his feathers I observed thousands of the parasites- I employed tobacco-water, also lime-water, under my then master's orders, to no effect. In his absence I well damped him and sprinkled him under the feathers with black sulphur, when next day they were examined by a microscope, and every one was dead. Having had some macaws and parrots that were addicted to biting off their feathers, I employed the black sulphur by well syringing them with water, then sprinkling the sulphur over their skins. If tame, sponge the skins, then rub gently with the points of the fingers with the sulphur every other day for about a fortnight, when the parrot or macaw will cease to destroy its plumage. It is not a remedy that has not beed proved, for I have used it these two years with success.

We get the above from the *London Field*. We have never tried it but it seems to us very likely to be successful. Sulphur is known ot be good for such purposes.

We have often tried successfully, and seen others do so, melted lard. Open the feathers or down and with a spoon pour it upon the skin. Often one single greasing, if thorough, will destroy all the vermin.

ONE USE OF POULTRY.

In all climates and especially in this, insects are the torment of the garden and orchard.—How to destroy them is an important question. One way is to raise poultry and let them have free range. The amount of bugs, worms, millers, &c., that a dozen hens will destroy in one season is enormous, especially if they be of the active kind. Shanghais are poor bug catchers. They are too lazy and clumsy. Watch a flock of hens. See this one catch a bug, that one a fly, another a worm, a fourth a miller, and so on round and round all day long. This is one of the employments of hens. Insects are in part their natural food. Give them all the grain they want and they will still catch insects. Hence hens will not lay well in winter without being fed meat. They are carniverous and require some meat for food.

If it is objected that hens will scratch the garden and destroy more than they are worth, we reply feed them well on vegetable food, give them a good mellow, dry place to wallow, scratch and sun themseves and then their chief object in rambling and scratching will be bugs and worms. A great many hens cannot often be raised in a small place. One reason is, that their hunting ground is too narrow and does not afford game enough. They like to range over space enough to give them a good supply of insect food.

The Apiary.

[Written for the Valley Farmer.]

BEES AGAIN.

"A gun well aimed at duck or plover,
May shoot—yet kick the owner over."—HUDIBRAS.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—Perhaps no one of your readers wou'd have been better pleased than myself to have had a *just* criticism on my article in your February and March numbers, on the management of bees, from so eminent a bee keeper as Mr. Quimby, no doubt is. But I regret he so entirely misread as he did, what I said on the most important point to which he objects.

He quotes me as directing to rob a hive but once in a season, and says, "My rule is to take off boxes as fast as filled." So, also, I said and have practiced for fifteen years. It is true, I object most seriously to opening the main hive more than once in a season, for it often, but not always, disheartens the bees. I have had, when I sometimes practiced it, several good swarms to quit work and go to destruction for oftener opening and robbing the hive. I said explicitly, "After being filled up for winter supplies, *as many caps may be taken off as they will fill*, which depends upon the season and strength of the swarm." I also said, "I always have glass in my caps to avoid taking them off until full." The printer made me say "fall," which would have made the direction less obvious, had I not written as above quoted. n addition to which I also said, "have caps of various sizes, using the smaller ones as the season advances. It not unfrequently happens that bees will fill a small cap when the season has progressed so far that they will make no commencement in a large one." Thus I induce them to fill as many caps with honey as practicable after robbing once, the main hive, and they fill it up for their winter supply.

Read again, Mr. Quimby. You truly say, "*Ignorance* as well as *interest* sometimes prevents our seeing,"—perhaps both sometimes obscure our understanding. I really did not "hit" him in calling a bee-bench an "intolerable nuisance."

I have never seen his book, nor had any recollection of anything of the little I had read from his pen touching his theory or practice relative to bees. I was endeavoring solely to copy the portions of my own experience and management which have with me obtained the best ends, and which have been in a high degree satisfactory, and I characterized the various fanciful theories of writers on the subject as "mysteries," which, whether true or not, as being of light importance to the purely practical man.

Perhaps my use of the word "Mysteries" thrilled a high wrought sensitiveness for his book, in Mr. Quimby, and he had not before him the case of the man who shot at a bear in a brush heap and found upon a closer inspection that no bear had been there, and his critical gun proved to be of the same family of instruments as that described by Hudibras.

As to the cost of the different hives and fixtures, on referring to his as described in the January number of the Farmer, mine is certainly the cheapest, if made with the same degree of finish. I have had mine made, finding all, for twenty cents each without the caps, which are nothing but boxes from six to ten inches square with a small bit of glass in a side of each darkened by a slide or shutter, hung with a slip of leather and a few tacks. Any one that can saw a plank and make a joint can make the hives and caps. I prefer dressing the inside to letting the bees spend time to do it. And the outside and the painting for the appearance and the resistance to the weather. Bees never cease their antagonism to the worms until they spin their web and cocoons amongst their combs—then they abandon the entangling warfare. Now I appeal to the common sense of those who have not the practical demonstration, which is the most likely arrangement for them to clear themselves of worms that all know they struggle with when accessible, a flat bench between which and the hives the worms can at all times be found, in all stages of their growth, wherever the space is sufficient and not large enough for the bees to enter, or, a smooth, sloping bottom from which with a slight encounter, they are rolled off to be destroyed by fowls. At all events, certainly, few ever get back. Let them "secrete" in the grass if they choose. I had rather have a thousand cocoons there than one in the hive.—Rely upon raising the hive to destroy them, as he recommends, and the trouble is so interminable and unceasing that it will be neglected. Before I adopted the suspended hive I used split elders or canes with the pith scraped out, under my hive in which the worms took shelter from the bees in numbers, which I destroyed every morning, but found absence or neglect was all that was wanted to raise a most robust brood of worms—hence, I dispensed with that "intolerable nuisance—a bee-bench."

All I will say here in relation to cutting out "old black comb" is, when bees abandon them they are a useless encumbrance—a fit receptacle for the moth to remain unmolested, and may in some instances remain longer than I recommended, but seldom over the half of "ten years."

"Opinion is the queen of the world."

Criticism of opinion is the great improver of that opinion, but that criticism should be just.

Greenville, Tenn. E. LINK.

LOOK FOR THE BEE MOTH.—Those having bees and wishing to keep them and have "luck" must almost daily visit their hives, (early in the morning is the best time,) and tip them up on one side and destroy the worms which secrete themselves under the edges of the hive. Unless this is carefully attended to, don't expect to be successful in keeping bees—for they are the great enemy of the bee.

Horticultural Department.

Southern Fruits and Vegetables in Northern Markets.

Within a few years the establishment of steam packet lines and the opening of railroads between the various portions of the South and our Northern cities, have wrought a most wonderful improvement in the fruit and vegetable markets of these cities. It has now become a regular and extensive business in various section of the South, near the established shipping ports to cultivate fruit and vegetable gardens for the supply of these markets. The island of Bermuda, Florida, Charleston, S. C., Norfolk, Va., are among the prominent points from whence shipments of potatoes, tomatoes, peas, beans, green corn, melons, &c., together with fruits, are made. These may be had in the principal eastern cities from February until a home supply is produced.

These are matters of no small importance not only to the cities and individuals supplied, but to the producers of these various crops. So ready has been the demand for these early supplies that the business has regularly and greatly increased, and continues to increase with each returning year. Of course, at so early a period, and before the regular home supply comes in fruits and vegetables command extraordinary prices, affording ample remuneration to the grower, and the shipper as well as the retailer.

We allude to this new source of trade with the view to call the attention of our readers who are situated upon lines uniting with the great leading rail roads to the importance of this subject to them. There are thousands of land admirably adapted to various kinds of fruits and vegetables near the more southern branches of rail roads that might be turned to the most profitable account in the way of furnishing the more Northern inland cities with their various products, weeks in advance of their regular market supplies. This is now done to some extent, sending fruits and vegetables to Cincinnati, Cleveland, Indianapolis, Chicago, Buffalo, &c., from the regular home supplies, but few gardens are established for the express purpose, affording anything like a full and constant supply.

Tennessee and other Southern States can supply Louisville, Cincinnati, Cleveland and other markets. Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois and Missouri in turn can furnish cities still farther North, thus opening a new and important trade, and at the same time extending blessings to thousands of the inhabitants.

Happening to be in Buffalo early in July we saw large quantities of raspberries in market grown in Ohio, near Cincinnati. The fruit was readily selling at about double the price demanded in the markets of Cincinnati, and so with peaches and other fruits as well as garden vegetables.

With proper foresight and arrangements an unlimited demand would be afforded for the numerous products of the garden and the orchard.

PLANTING FRUIT TREES.

The fall is regarded as the best season for planting most varieties of fruit trees. We presume there are but few of our readers who should not plant more or less trees the coming fall. Indeed every farmer having ever so great a variety and number of fruit trees should consider it a duty to plant a few trees each year. It is only by so doing that he can keep up his orchard. Some trees will die from one cause, and some from another, and all will be growing older and it is important that trees should be planted to take their places.

Most persons think if they have trees in bearing, that is enough—it is entirely unnecessary to plant more. But this is a great error. We know of many excellent farms where a fine variety of fruit trees were planted at an early day which came into bearing—but are now nearly all dead from old age and disease, and now there is no fruit upon these farms, simply because no young trees were planted from year to year. The farmers thought that an orchard once planted would last forver—but experience has taught them such is not the case—and the occupants of these farms now must plant again and wait for years for new trees to come into bearing. Our advice is to plant trees yearly. Neither you nor your descendants will ever regret it.

But where one has not a variety of fruit he should not delay planting longer. The sooner he plants his trees, the sooner he will enjoy their fruits. And it is just as important that the farmer should raise fruit of the various kinds as it is that he should raise corn, wheat, &c., &c.

The Ailanthus Tree.

Among the trees of foreign origin there are few more ornamental than the Ailanthus, and their rapid growth has caused them to be extensively planted as shade trees in almost every city and town throughout the country, as well as ornaments to the lawns of country residences. They make a vigorous growth upon the poorest land and will afford a shade in less time than any tree with which we are acquainted. One most serious objection to these trees is the disagreeable smell emitted at the time of flowering. This is not only extremely unpleasant, but is thought by many to be unhealthy or poisonous, so much so that the authorities of Washington, D. C., some years since, ordered them all to be cut down in that city, and other cities at that time made quite a demonstration against them. Recently less has been said about them.

The ailanthus belongs to the family of plants called *diæcious*, that is, having the male blossoms on one tree while another bears the seeds. It is only the male tree while in flower that is so offensive. For a long time many of these trees were propagated by nurserymen from cuttings from the roots, and these happened to be from the male individuals, and hence there is a large preponderance of this class of trees, and in many places they are exclusively of that character. We have propagated them from the seed from which they are as easily grown as so many peas, and in this way a fair proportion of the opposite sex, that is the seed bearing trees will be produced. We have not so closely examined the foliage, or the nature of the growth of the two kinds as to be able to distinguish the male from the female tree, but it is not unlikely that by close observation this may be done, and the nurseryman who will do this, will deserve well the patronage and good will of the public.

The female ailanthus tree usually grows more spreading than those of the other class, and the long racemes hanging in immense clusters with colors varying with the season, from a light green, through all the shades to a bright brownish red, and finally when ripe, to light brown, present for several months a truly ornamental appearance.

[For the Valley Farmer.]

FRUIT RAISING.

As this branch of business is beginning to have *proper* attention paid to it, every one is striving to raise fruit the cheapest and quickest way possible.

There are many and extensive nurseries to be found, producing and sending forth through the country a great number of fruit and ornamental trees; still the supply is inadequate to the demand, or the *real* wants of the country at large.

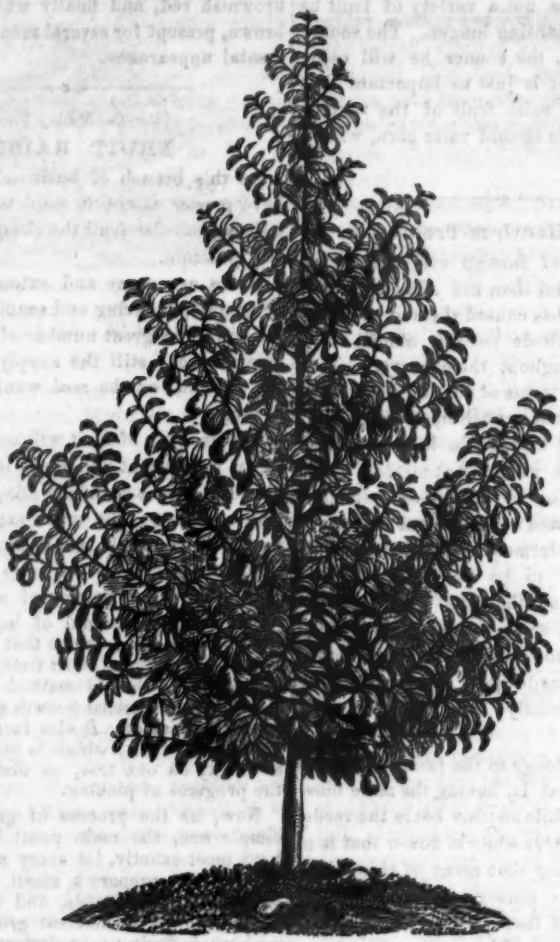
The growing of fruit will never be carried on to an extent that will cause it to be unprofitable; for it is beautifully adapted as food, for man or beast. The most extensive fruit tree producing county is that of Monroe, Co., N. Y., where it is carried on more as it should be than in any other portion of our country.

The common method of ingrafting into the root of a seedling, is one that produces a good sized tree in a very short time, and is therefore preferable to the old method of setting a tree and letting it get its growth nearly, before the grafts are put in. It also forms a tree bearing one kind of fruit, which is better than to have a variety on one tree, as that greatly retards the progress of picking.

Now, as the process of grafting is a very simple one, the main point being to have the bark meet exactly, let every man who has any taste for it, prepare a small or large piece of ground, sow the seeds, and when the sprouts have attained a sufficient growth, graft them with such fruit as he desires; so that in the course of a few of years, he may have an abundance of fruit of his own choice and raising. Apple trees may be produced in this way with very little trouble, it not being necessary to procure the bare seeds; but after having prepared the ground and cut the drills, far enough apart to allow you to work between the rows, take corcings or pomace, if the apples have been ground so as not to cut all the seeds, and scatter it in the drills so that you will get in seeds enough, and if there are too many sprouts when they come up, it is a very easy matter to pull some of them out. The proper time to put the seeds in the ground is in the fall.

Let no man think, because he has a good orchard at present, that *he* need not raise fruit trees; but consider, like himself, the trees may and will pass away. Consequently, *now* is the time to commence raising others to fill the places of those now living; for, unless a man leaves things as good or better than he finds them, he has lived "much to little purpose."

Yours, &c. J. W. W.



Dwarf Pear Tree. Drawn from a Louise bonne de Jersey, growing on the Quince stock.

SELECT DWARF PEARS.

Much difference of opinion prevails, and frequent discussions take place among planters of fruit trees, on the subject of pear culture.—Even experienced cultivators are not always unanimous in their decisions on certain important questions submitted to them by the profes sedly inexperienced amateur. When we take into account the attention which has been devoted to this branch of fruit culture for the past few years, we might reasonably expect to find matters a little better understood with respect to certain debated points. But on the other hand, when we estimate the small amount of really practical knowledge which is brought to bear on these disputed points, and how much more importance is attached to the dicta of a few influential persons, who having themselves taken a partial view of the subject, from an unfavorable point, labor to direct the observation of others in the same unfavorable direction, we cannot feel so much disappointed at the result as we should have done, had the facts been permitted to speak, and the experience o the less ostentateous witnesses been weighed against the high sounding and dogmatical assertions of those who are generally found to deal in extremes. The spread of horticultural knowledge is a great desideratum, but we fear if horticultural writers continue to multiply as they have done within a few years back, the information will be of but little value. Our object now is to show that certain varieties of pear may be successfully and profitably cultivated on the quince stock, provided certain conditions are complied with; and, lest we should say too much at one time, we propose to take the varieties singly.

The *Louise Bonne of Jersey* may be cultivated with success on the true Angers quince, in a moderately heavy loam, or at least on such soils as are acknowledged to be favorable to the growth of the quince, provided the subsoil be thoroughly drained and the surface soil kept mellow by the use of the cultivator with the addition annually of such a dressing of suitable

manure as is acknowledged to be necessary for the preservation of the soil in a proper condition in case any other root or grain crop were to be taken from it. Provided always that the cultivator is an intelligent and careful man who attends to the necessary routine of keeping the the ground clean, pruning the trees in a proper manner, and providing against the attack of vermin and other depredators.

That this variety may be cultivated with profit, it is also necessary the owner should make provisions for the marketing of fruit, and that the fruit should be picked in due season and house ripened, having a market or purchaser in view, to receive them when in good condition, and in such a community as can appreciate choice pears.

The *Louise Bonne of Jersey* is a large and juicy pear, sub-acid and melting, a very productive bearer on the quince as well as a very ornamental and vigorous tree; ripens in this vicinity about the last of September. Healthy trees such as that in the annexed cut, of from six to eight years from the bud will produce from two to three pecks after thinning about two-thirds of the original crop, which should be done to preserve the vigor of the tree. If the whole crop is allowed to remain, the tree would bear more than a bushel, but the specimens would prove inferior in size and flavor. Such trees may stand at 10 feet apart or at least 400 trees to the acre.

Making a very low estimate from the actual produce of such trees, during the past season, and allowing for cost of trees, annual labor, and rent of land, with other contingencies, we could show that a small profit could be realised in the sixth year, and each succeeding year an annual gain of from three to five hundred dollars per acre.—*Genesee Farmer.*

A New and Valuable Strawberry—"Wilson's Albany."

It is usually the custom when a new fruit is produced for the grower to introduce it to the public in that manner which will insure him the greatest profit in the sale of plants. In doing this the merit of the fruit is often over estimated, and on trial the public are not unfrequently disappointed in the result. But we occasionally meet with individuals more unassuming, whose extreme modesty will not even allow them to do justice to themselves nor to the public at large. We may notice an instance of this kind in the propagation of a new Strawberry under the name which heads this article. This variety was produced about four years ago by Mr. James Wilson, Nurseryman and Florist, of Albany, New York.

We saw this variety for the first time in the garden of a friend in central New York, on the 17th of July; it was then near the close of the fruiting season, yet the berries were of extraordinary size, and had been in bearing four or five weeks. They were growing with Burr's New Pine, Early Scarlet, Boston Pine and Hovey's Seedling, and we were assured that the Albany was at least one-third or one-half larger and produced more than double the quantity of the best of the other varieties named. When we saw them they were the only ones in fruit and yet the specimens were of uncommon size, none small, but varying from medium to very large, many of them measuring over four inches in circumference. Instead of one or two stems to a plant there are usually from four to six, each bearing a large number of berries.—The central stems ripen early, and others coming in at a later period, thereby considerably prolonging the season. It is a variety with perfect blossoms, requiring no fertilizer; fruit very firm, of a dark crimson, with the color continuing to the centre. In point of flavor we regard them fully equal to our best market berries.

While in Albany we rode out to Mr. Wilson's nursery in order to obtain the true history of the variety. We were informed by Mr. John Wilson, the present proprietor that this variety was produced by his father by artificial crossing from Hovey's Seedling or Black Prince on one side, but what variety was used as fertilizer Mr. Wilson could not inform us his father having died about two years afterwards. He said it was by far the most productive variety he had ever been acquainted with, many of the specimens measuring five inches in circumference. Mr. Wilson is quite a young man and has taken no pains to give publicity to the excellence of this fruit but since it attracted our notice we find that ameteurs who have it in cultivation have published accounts of its extraordinary quality and productiveness.

From what we have seen of this fruit, not only for its good quality and beautiful color, but from its firmness, we regard it the best variety for market purposes that has yet been produced.

We hope our readers are blessed with good orchards of apples, peaches, pears, plums, &c., so as to enjoy the great profusion of fruit this season. The fruit trees, of all kinds, seem to be loaded down this season. We believe there will be much less sickness in consequence this fall. Ripe fruit eaten either cooked or raw is antibillious and very healthful. Better plant orchards and raise fruits to *preserve* health than fee doctors to *restore* it.

The Home Circle.

No good housewife will fail to avail herself of the practical hints contained in this valuable article.—Eds.

PREPARATIONS FOR WINTER.

BY HETTIE HAYFIELD.

As we pick up our pen, "on useful thoughts intent," the vision of the fair young housewife, in her afternoon leisure, rises vividly before us. She sits in the green twilight of a bower, over which the clustering grape, and flowering honeysuckle, have woven a canopy; in this as in all her home surroundings, she has happily blended the useful and the beautiful. And now as she watches the unsparing reaper, as its skeleton hand gathers every blade, she exults in the advance of philanthropic science, or perhaps muses on the inevitable hour when relentless death shall so pass over the teeming fields of human life. From such scenes as this, this greenest of summer, from such purifying thoughts as these, it seems cruel to recall her to the wearisome drudgery of life, yet if she heeds not too, the busy bee, and the toiling ant, who store beside her, for winter wants, we fear the hour will come when her presidence over the home circle may be voted weary, stale and unprofitable. For "flesh is flesh," and Fanny Fern never edged a keener satire against man than when she declared his stomach the portal to his heart.

Our limits are too brief to furnish many particular receipts; we will have to content ourselves with generalities rather.

The different divisions of housekeeping are nearly all tributary to the winter store-room.—We hope the young house wife laid her foundations for success long ago, by putting in a first rate garden, proper attention to the orchard, and that her dairy and poultry yard are in high thrift. If so, the poultry yard is filled with chirping broods of every desirable variety that need but care to be fatted by thanksgiving, and day by day adds some to her stock of winter eggs which may be preserved, by being put in small jars on the little end. In our experience they will keep months with no further care, but longer if dipped in a thick solution of gum arabic, drained and dried. We used, to-day, some put up April 1st. Commonly they are kept by covering them with water, saturated with lime, and having dissolved in it likewise, one pint of salt to one gallon of water. Lime, salt or strong ashes will partially cook eggs sometimes if packed in them.

DAIRY.

May is considered the charmed month for packing butter, but we think any grass season with a dairy of right temperature good. We think cheese making best followed however in summer, as there is usually time enough in cool fall weather to lay up a stock of winter butter, and less risks to be run by the inexperienced.

VEGETABLES.

Beside the great variety of vegetables raised purposely for winter use, there are many now commonly preserved which used only to grace the summer banquet.

Lima beans dried in the pod when it begins to grow yellow are nice. Lima beans and green beans, in a green state, may be packed in alternate layers with salt, and, after soaking, be cooked as in summer time.

Corn deprived of all but the inner husks can be kept in strong brine and looks very natural. It may be cut after slightly scalding and strongly salted and put up in close cans. It may also be dried after scalding.

Okra and pumpkins may be sliced thin and dried for winter use.

Tomatoes may be stewed done, drained and spread in cakes an inch thick and dried. They may be kept in brine or cut off with a stem and kept, not touching, on a shelf, in a cool place, for a long time. Possesing the variety of fine vegtables we do for every season, we cannot append a note of admiration to the above receipe. Tomatoes prepared as for table, corn ditto, and green peas and asparagus slightly baked and put up in tight cans, as fresh fruits are, we have eaten, and esteem the *two first* cheap luxuries.

Fruits dried, potted, preserved, &c., &c., constitute the burden of the house-keeper's care, and in the shape of preserves, pickles, &c., &c., we think, have by far too prominent a place in our bills of fare. But the preservation of fresh fruits, we consider an advance in sanitary economy.

To begin properly have a supply of bottles or cans capable of being sealed air tight. A boiler in which the empty cans may be set surrounded with water which must be boiling briskly, while they are being filled with fruit. A preserving kettle in which to scald the fruit and another to heat the syrup in. For bottles, have corks that fit very tight, even after dipping in boiling water. Have a wide mouthed funnel to pass the fruit through, and a perforated ladle to drain it with. A vessel of melted sealing wax and some bits of ice or cold water convenient. Take sound, fresh fruit and prepare it precisely as for table use. Prepare a kettle of syrup of the fruit if possible. When you are sure the syrup is boiling, and the fruit is boiling hot through and through, begin your operations. Fill your cans, while in the boiling water, with fruit; fill up every crevice with boiling syrup; close the can immediately, fill the grooves with wax, lay on the wax a piece of ice or some cold water to cool it instantly; smooth it down firmly with a knife, and if you use tin cans, set them at once in cold water. *To seal up instantly in air tight cans, sound fresh fruit or vegetables, while boiling hot, is the whole mystery of potting.* Two parts bees wax and one of rosin makes a good sealing wax. Plaster of paris mixed with water (small quantities at a time) makes a good seal for pickles. Old time cans made when soldering was practised, can be made very convenient, by having a ring two inches deep and one inch larger in circumference than the opening put on them. A cork fits into the ring as well as in a bottle

and makes the can quite as convenient. If your fruit keeps well it will shrink from the mouth of the bottle and the cans will show no signs of swelling and will sometimes become concaved, slightly. A cool, dry place is of first importance for keeping potted fruits, preserves, &c.

PRESERVING.—A wide porcelain lined kettle is best, if metal is used; the fruit must never cool in it. A perforated skimmer to drain the fruit out with and large dishes on which to cool it. Preserves keep best in small vessels, and should be kept air tight. Seal them when you put them up, and when opened, if not used at once, tie them over with oil cloth, leather, or thick paper, wet with the white of an egg.

The best of sugar is required for preserving and for superior preserves *that* will require *clarifying*. 1 lb. of sugar to 1 lb. of fruit is the usual allowance, but acid fruits or jellies require one and a half lbs.

Citron is made of the melon of that name, water melon rinds, or cantelopes. Peal and cut it to your fancy. Soak it a night in salt water; boil it one hour in alum water, putting layers of grape leaves between, if you wish to green it, changing them several times. Lay it in cold water for two hours. Then boil it until transparent, in a fine, clear syrup, season it with any essence you prefer.

Quinces should be stemmed, the flower bud cut out, and boiled until easily pricked with a fork. Then pealed and cored or quartered, and set away for some hours with the sugar strewed amongst them. Some water will probably have to be used in making syrup for them. Boil them until clear and cover with a syrup nearly as stiff as jelly.

Apples, peaches, pears and plums are made in the same way, using no water if you have syrup enough from the fruit. Small fruits do not need the preparatory hardening. They should be stemmed, stoned, &c., and boiled until done. Preserve a few at a time if you wish to preserve their shape. If scarce of fruit you may strew them with sugar some hours before you cook them, and they will spare a good quantity of juice for jelly and yet retain enough to be preserved in.

Jams and marmalades are made of fruits mashed to a pulp and stewed with equal quantities of sugar until very thick.

JELLIES

Are made of the juices of fruits, procured by boiling and pressure. The liquid must be strained through flannel strainers until transparent. To each pint of juice allow 1 lb. of best sugar, and stir in the beaten white of an egg for each pint of liquid. Boil and skim until you find it jellies well. Long boiling or exposure to the air darkens jelly. If scarce of fruit, you may only boil the juice to a thick syrup, and bottle it. When required for use, dissolve a half ounce of clear ising glass in one pint of syrup, and it will scarcely be distinguishable from pure fruit jelly. It must not be tough by excess of gelatine.

Conserves.—The article we have met in the best houses of our State, do not come under the definition of this word in the best authorities. We have seen pears, quinces, tomatoes and citron, preserved and dried in the sun and then kept in layers of dry sugar. These fill a basket as nicely as prunes or figs. Marmalades may be made dry and consistent enough to be sliced and cut into fancy shapes for the same use. Citron is prepared in this way for fruit cake.

Brandy Fruits—Are made by pouring over them a rich syrup of sugar, agreeably flavored with the above anti-temperance exhilerant.

DRINKS.

Shrubs are made of the juices of acid fruit, currants, raspberries, lemons, &c. Prepare precisely as for jelly, only boiling to a syrup. Bottle and when diluted with water, if not sour enough, use a little tartaric acid.

Cordials—are the pure juices of fruits, prepared as for shrub, and flavored strongly with white brandy and sometimes alcohol. Blackberry cordial is highly spiced.

Wines—Are the juices of grapes or other berries which after fermentation are bottled—sometimes sugar is added. Any careful housekeeper may make better drinks than are generally marked with the best brands. But it is expensive and troublesome; and morality considered, better dispensed with.

Vinegar.—The best is made of cider, weakened and set in a warm place until it sours. We add one valuable, because easy and cheap receipt.

Boil one gallon of shelled corn in 12 gallons of rain water until reduced two-thirds. Drain off the liquid, mix in it 2 lbs. of molasses or sugar, 1 gallon of good cider vinegar and 1 pt. of hop yeast, rolled up in pieces of thick, white paper. In bottles kept in the sun this will be fit for use in six weeks.

PICKLES.

Keep kegs or jars ready to receive your pickles as gathered. Those of no peculiar flavor can be put together, such as cucumbers, melons, &c. Put in pickles and layers of salt and pour over just enough water to keep them well covered. The brine should be strong. A coarse cloth and weight pressing down the pickles all the time. From time to time, when you wish to use them, soak them in clear water until free from salt, then green them with grape leaves and alum water. Scald them in moderate vinegar for ten minutes and tie them up closely in jars. After a few days, drain off this vinegar and pour over them strong spiced vinegar, boiling hot.

Mangoes—Are of young mush-melons, large peppers, tomatoes, &c. They are freed from the seeds and after the first scalding in vinegar filled with scraped horse raddish, seeds of coriander and mustard, chopped pickles, &c. The piece cutout is then nicely fitted in, and they are proceeded with as other pickles.

Cold Pickles.—Vinegar may be seasoned agreeably, with salt, spices, &c., and cucumbers, nasturtions, peaches, and many other fruits are nicer for being pickled without scalding. These pickles require time for perfection.

Yellow Pickle—Is made of white cabbage or

cucumbers, or of blanched vegetables. The bleaching is done by keeping the vegetables in the salt, slightly covered with salt. Before the spiced vinegar is poured on them it is colored highly with teumeric.

Sweet Pickles—Are made of almost any fruit. Peaches are freed from fur, not pealed for this use. Pears pealed, plums pricked with a fork and cherries placed between their own leaves. Over the fruit a rich syrup of vinegar and delicate spices is poured boiling.

CATCHUPS.

These are made of walnut, tomatoe or mushroom juice, procured by mashing, salting slightly, and (after standing some hours) pressing severely. The juice is boiled to the consistency of cream, skimmed clean and flavored as pickles.

Cucumbers grated up, peaches mashed to a pulp, or tomatoes chopped fine and then pressed dry make a delicious catchup. Season the dry pulp with vinegar and spices. Peaches prepared thus and seasoned with vinegar and sugar are very nice.

Flavored Vinegar—May be made by steeping the seed of any desired flavor until it is impregnated. Celery vinegar is nice for chicken salad.

If cabbage or celery are scarce in the fall, you may chop them fine, pack in jars and keep under strong vinegar. They answer well for hot slaw or chicken salad.

DRIED FRUIT, CIDER, &C.

Fruits are dried either in the sun or on kilns. The last is quickest and easiest, but needs care to prevent burning. Spread paper over your kiln, peal your fruit, slice it thin, and it will dry fair and well flavored. Small fruits should be sprinkled thickly with sugar when just moist enough to melt it. When dry, packed in jars with layers of dry sugar between it is as nice as potted fruit for pies.

Cider making belonga to the lord of the manor. While it is going on, filter some through charcoal for winter use. Likewise convey some to your kettles direct from the press, boil it down to syrup; then peal some of your sweetest apples and stew them in it to apple butter. Season it with spices if you like. Wild grapes may be preserved in this syrup. Nice jelly can be made by clearing, skimming and preserving, by boiling down cider without sugar.

(For the Valley Farmer.)

EDUCATION.

Mr. Editor:—Education is the main spring to society, yet how few enjoy the luxury of thinking *accurately*. It is science that makes one man excel another in augmenting material wealth, in architecture, agriculture, business, and so with every earthly vocation, for knowledge is power. In education unless the incipient stages are taken properly, defects will appear in its superstructure, for scholarship depends on thoroughness and mental discipline, acquired by thinking, and not on the number of books gone through with at railroad speed. The studying of seven branches, properly, will do more to aid in self-education to the age of three score, than seven times seven gone over superficially.

Education consists in having full blown ideas, and a child is not properly taught until he can teach what he has undertaken to learn. One full blown idea is worth twenty unhatched ones. The times call loudly for accurate teachers in continuous schools, to aid in raising the standard of education. R. Bissell.

DOMESTIC RECEIPTS.

Peach Jelly.—Take free-stone peaches, not too ripe, wipe them and cut them into quarters crack the stones and break the kernels small; put the peaches and kernels into a covered jar, set them in boiling water, and let them do till soft; strain them through a jelly bag until the juice is squeezed out; allow a pint of white sugar to a pint of juice; put the sugar and juice into a preserving kettle, and boil them twenty minutes, skimming very carefully; put the jelly warm into glasses or jars, and when cold tie up with brandied papers.

Pickled Peaches.—Take a gallon of good vinegar, add a few pounds of sugar, boil it for a few minutes, and remove any scum that may rise; then take cling stone peaches that are fully ripe; rub them with a flannel cloth to get off the down, and stick three or four cloves in each; put them into a glass or earthen vessel, and pour the liquor upon them boiling hot; cover them up and let them stand in a cool place for a week or ten days, then pour off the liquor and boil it as before, after which return it boiling to the peaches, then carefully cover up and store away.

Peaches in Brandy.—Wipe, weigh and carefully select the fruit, and have ready a quarter of the weight of powdered white sugar; put the fruit into a vessel that shuts closely; ; throw the sugar over it, and then cover the fruit with brandy; between the top and cover of the pot put a piece of double cap paper; set the pot in a saucepan of hot water, till the brandy is quite hot, but not boiling; put the fruit into a jar, and pour the brandy upon it, and when cold put a bladder over it and tie down tightly.

Baked Apple Dumpling.—Prepare a rich paste of sour cream and soda; roll them thin; cut them out and prepare them the same as for boiling; place them upon tins and bake until the fruit is thorougly done. To be eaten with any sauce prepared.

Bread Pudding.—Crumble down stale bread in a dish; boil sufficient milk, which pour on to the bread. Cover it up for a quarter of an hour that the bread may swell; then beat it up to a fine pulp, stirring in a lump of butter.—Now beat up three or four eggs, ground cinnamon, ginger, grated lemon peel, and sugar to taste, half a pound of raisins stoned and chopped; half a pound of currants picked and washed, with a little salt. Mix this among the bread; make if of the consistence of thick butter. Butter the dish, pour it in, and bake for half an hour.

Editor's Table.

The Weather and the Crops.

Since our last monthly report we have but little additional to offer for the present number. With the exception of some far Western localities, the weather has continued propitious for the husbandman. The ingathering of the harvest was concluded generally under a clear sky, and in the best condition. The late favorable showers in most sections, have brought forward the corn with a rapidity and luxuriance seldom surpassed in any season, which now places the crop beyond the possibility of injury from drouth, and with a prospect of an unparalelled production. Potatoes too, have matured, affording a crop both extraordinary for size of tubers and yield per acre, furnishing a full supply for southern markets. In some sections of the Eastern States, we hear of unusual loss in this crop, from the potato disease. The fear of loss from this cause has induced many farmers to send large quantities to market, which has caused quite a reduction in the price. While this malady has been so ruinous in former years in the Eastern States, but little injury or loss has been sustained by our Western framers who plant the same kinds to a considerable extent. This fact alone wold seem to afford conclusive argument against the very prevailing notion that the disease is caused by deterioration or running out of varieties.

While passing through the State of New York in various directions, we noticed that unusual quantities of Buckwheat has been sown, probably double the extent of surface that has ever before been devoted to this crop. This has been caused rather from necessity than choice. The unusual amount of rain that fell in the early part of the season, prevented many farmers from seeding their land in time with oats, spring wheat and barley. Failing to get in these crops, the only alternative remaining was to sow the land in buckwheat. This circumstance caused an unusual rise in the price of seed—from 50 cents to $1,50 and finally to $2,50 per bushel. The crop now presents an unusually promising appearance, and should the season close favorably as it has thus far advanced, we may expect during the coming winter an abundant supply of buckwheat cakes, at prices within the reach of all.

List of Fairs in Indiana and Kentucky.—We acknowledge our obligations to our friends who so kindly responded to our request in sending us premium lists of the local fairs to be held both in Kentucky and Indiana. We made out lists of all such, so far as we had been informed of the time and place of holding the fairs for publication in the last number of the Valley Farmer. But from some oversight they failed to appear. This we regret, as they were forwarded in ample time.

The above is from the Louisville Editor. The letter containing the list must have been lost, as it never reached the St. Louis office. We regret this the more as the Louisville editor is now absent and we have no means of preparing a list. We presume however, that our Kentucky and Indiana friends have seen these lists published in other papers, or know when the various county fairs will be held.

Agricultural Fairs.

The season of Agricultural Fairs is approaching. All are looking forward to these agricultural holidays as seasons of pleasure. Men and boys, matrons and maids await their coming with anxiety. One of the strongest desires of our natures is to see all that we can of what is going on around us. There is no better way to learn than to learn by observation, when that can be done. These Fairs are schools, when properly conducted, for the farmer. They teach by example. They set before him the best breeds of stock, and the best of those breeds. They exhibit the best products of the farm, the orchard, the garden, the dairy, &c. They put into operation the best agricultural implements, so that the farmer can judge which will best suit his purpose. It is impossible for one to attend such a place, who keeps his eyes open and desires to be benfitted, who will not be greatly improved. Good examples are excellent things. And the various articles exhibited, ought to be patterns in their way, for everybody to follow. Then let old and young attend them, and attend them to be improved—to learn more of stock, of fruit, of farming generally. Let farmers be communicative and impart the secret of their success in any particular branch, to their brother farmers, and let them profit thereby. Let the young keep their eyes open, and ears too, and garner away in the storehouse of the mind, every useful hint that is disclosed.

There ought to be, at every agricultural fair, a meeting of the farmers, in the evening, for the purpose of discussing every question of interest in regard to the cultivation of the soil, the best method of putting in crops, and the proper management thereof; the most profitable breeds of cattle, hogs, sheep, &c.; the varieties of fruit best adapted for their locality, and many other questions. What engines of improvement such meetings could be made if attended and participated in with the right spirit! What benefits they would confer upon the farming community generally! Such meetings have been held at many fairs, and with decided benefit.

Another means of improvement can be enjoyed. Generally some person is selected to deliver an address upon such occasions. The speaker has the advantage of addressing thousands of farmers at such times, and the great object of his address should be to utter what will be of the utmost advantage to his hearers. He should not strive to make a beautiful speech—to give utterance to fanciful figures, but to be practical. Every sentence should convey something that will be useful to those who hear him. The farmer deals with what is useful, and he wants to hear something that is useful, rather than something fanciful; and when such a speaker has been selected—elected for his knowledge of agriculture—his practical and thorough knowledge of it, the hearer can derive great benefit. And here, perhaps it may not be out of the way to say, that persons should be selected to deliver agricultural addresses who are distinguished not so much as politicians or statesmen, but who are distinguished as farmers or for their knowledge of Practical or Scientific agriculture. It is unnecessary for farmers to go out of their own profession for speakers. An enlightened farmer who loves his pursuit and strives to understand it and keep up with its improvements, will make a far more sensible and valuable speech—one that will benefit his hearers more than the

most brilliant lawyer in the country. There is an abundance of such farmers, or if there is not there should be.

These fairs are also days of relaxation. We all must have relaxation. The bow must not always be bent. All nations have amusements of some character. Our national amusements are to be our agricultural fairs, where improvement will go hand in hand with them. Let them, then, be conducted with care, for good and noble purposes, and for the advancement of the best interests of American Agriculturists.

Patent Office Report.

It is stated that the forthcoming Agricultural Report will be the best that has been issued from the Patent Office. We are glad to learn this, for there is much room to improve on those issued the first eight or ten years after this department was added to the Patent Office. The few last numbers have been considerably improved above those previously issued, both in matter and manner of mechanical execution. Formerly the printing and binding were let out to the public printer at a cost of many thousands of dollars more than an equivalent for doing the work in a style that would be accreditable to the country, whereas it was turned off with the most miserable material and executed in the roughest possible manner.

With a little care in gathering facts, reports, statistics, &c., the agricultural reports might be rendered the medium of disseminating a vast amount of really valuable matter among a large class of farmers, who do not employ other means of acquring that kind of information so important to their calling through the regular agricultural press. The forthcoming report will be ready by the opening of the next Congress, and will contain three colored plates, one of a pair of beautiful Arden horses, one of a South Down sheep and one of Peabody's new Hautboy's Strawberry; there will also be fifty plates of beasts, birds, and insects, injurious and benficial to agriculture.

This subject is becoming a matter of so much importance to the public that we hope to see it entirely severed from the Patent Office department, with which it has about as legitimate a connection as though it constituted a part of the department of War.

The Journal of Agriculture and the Transactions of the Highland Agricultural Society of Scotland.—We have received the numbers of this excellent Quarterly for 1856 and up to the last quarter for 1857. It is published by Wm. Blackwood & Sons, Edinburg and London. Price in this country $4 a year. It is a work of a high order of merit, relating to the science and practice of agriculture in general, and of Great Britain in particular. With the exception of the routine of management of a few crops not adapted to our climate, it contains a vast amount of matter useful to the American farmer. The rapidly advancing improvements that are now taking place daily both in Great Britain and the United States renders it necessary that every intelligent farmer who intends to keep pace with the present progressive age, and farm to the greatest profit, should not only read the agricultural papers in the United States, but should take one or more from some other country. We are highly pleased with the style and character of the periodical before us, notwithstanding the cost is about double that of works of a similar character published in our own country.

Our orders were transmitted through Messrs. C. M. Soxton & Co., Agricultural book publishers, Fulton street, New York, who will forward subscriptions for any who desire the work.

Marion Mo., Agricultural and Mechanical Association.—The St. Louis editor of the Valley Farmer has accepted the invitation to deliver the address at the next annual fair of the above Association, which will be held at their fair grounds near the city of Palmyra commencing October 14th and continuing four days.—The address will be delivered on Thursday the 15th.

We shall also endeavor to attend most of the fairs in our State.

Exhibition of the Illinois State Horticultural Society.—The first annual exhibition of the Illinois State Horticultural Society, will be held at Peoria, on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, Sept. 22d, 23d and 24th, 1857.

The Premium list, with the names of the judges of the Exhibition, also the manifest prepared by the Corresponding Secretary, together with instructions to persons forwarding fruits and other horticultural objects to the Committe, Ad Interim, for examination, will be furnished on application to Dr. E. S. Hull, Alton, or O. B. Galusha, Cor. Sec. of the Society, Lisbon, Ill.

A Box of Fruit.—We had the pleasure of receiving on the 10th of August, a box of fruit from our esteemed friend, George Husman, of Herman, Mo., author of the excellent Essay on Grape Culture, which appeared in our columns a few months since. In the collection were the Red Astracan, Early Strawberry, Red June, White Junecating and Siberian Crab apples; the Baltimore Beauty and Early Anne peaches and Williams Early pear. These all came to hand in excellent condition. The varieties are valuable and worthy of cultivation. Mr. Husman has our thanks for the kind favor.

The North-Western Fruit Grower's Association will hold its next session in Alton, Ill., commencing Sept. 30th and continuing four days. We hope there will be a large attendance of those interested in Western fruits. The Association, if well attended and properly conducted will be productive of great good to the farmers and horticulturists of the West. We regret to see that the time of holding it conflicts with the time of holding the fair of the St. Louis Agricultural and Mechanical Association.

Dr. J. A. Warder, of Cincinnati, one of the most distinguished horticulturists of the West, has accepted the invitation to deliver the address on the occasion.

Officers of the Gasconade Agricultural and Mechanical Association.—President, Joseph Kessler; Vice President, Mathias Withrich; Recording Secretary, Dr. T. Conselman; Corresponding Secretary, George Husman; Treasurer, William Keilman; F. Noe, T. Graf and T. Quandt Inspectors.

The second annual fair of this Society will be held at Herman, on the 25th and 26th days of September, 1857.

☞September and October are the two great months for the fall fairs. Besides the great National fair at Louisville, perhaps the Ohio and New York State fairs, the former at Cincinnati and the latter at Buffalo, will prove the most interesting and important of any held in our sister States. These States are far advanced in the manufacture of every article interesting to the farmer, and their fairs are always largely attended, and so well conducted that one cannot fail to be doubly compensated for the time bestowed in attending them. We hope to be able to be present both at Cincinnati and Buffalo and furnish our readers with a full report of everything new, particularly in the line of labor-saving machines. We shall also endeavor to attend as many of the county fairs as possible that do not conflict with the time of the holding of the State fairs mentioned. We should be pleased to meet our friends at all the local fairs, but this is impossible. Our wish is to attend where there is the greatest display of new and improved machines, a description of which will prove most valuable to the farmer. We shall devote a considerable share of our next number to these reports.

Fatal Accident Caused by the Rupture of Threshing Cylinders.—We see it stated in the Lexington, Ky., papers, that William Clark was instantly killed at his father's farm, by the flying off of the cylinder of a wheat thresher while in motion. These accidents are of frequent occurrence, and result, in ninety-nine cases in a hundred, from the culpable recklessness of the builders of these machines in using unseasoned wood for the cylinders, and in not half securing them with bands. One establishment in Louisville has turned out within the last eighteen months, a large number of these threshers, many of which were made of timber almost entirely green. We have already heard of a number of fatal accidents that have occurred from the explosion of these cylinders, which after a short time shrink so much that the bands become loose, and the velocity with which they necessarily run, causes them to fly to pieces, and the result almost invariably is, that the man who feeds the grain is either killed or dangerously injured. These cases require investigation by the authorities as much as the explosion of a steam boiler, and the manufacturers of these machines should be held equally responsible with the engineer through whose carelessness or inattention the lives of persons are sacrificed on steamboats and railroads.

With proper care and the use of seasoned timber and sound iron in the manufacture of these machines, no accident of this kind need occur. But in the haste to supply the demand for these machines, some manufacturers work timber but a short time from the logs, and to run a machine made of such material is almost as dangerous as to play with fire over an open magazine of gun powder.

We deem it due to our readers to say this much upon a subject with which they may not be so familiar, and we would further advise every one who runs a threshing machine, to examine the cylinder frequently and see that the bands are tight and firmly secured. Many accidents have also been caused by the spikes flying out of the cylinder.

Threshers made upon the Over-shot principle are always less liable to accidents such as we have alluded to, and some manufacturers make no others for this reason.

St. Louis Fair.

Don't forget that the great Fair of the St. Louis Agricultural and Mechanical Association will commence on the 28th of September and continue six days.

Don't forget that over $16,000 have been offered in premiums, and especially don't forget to be at the fair.

Great as was the success of this fair last year, arrangements have been made to make it far more brilliant and entertaining this year. No other society in the Union has offered such large premiums. No other society has gone to such expense in fitting up and making attractive its fair grounds. The sight of these alone is worth a visit to persons hundreds of miles from here, to say nothing of the other unrivalled attractions.

☞We have received the premium list for the second annual fair of the St. Charles (Mo.) Agricultural and Mechanical Society. It is got up in a neat style. We return our thanks to the officers of this society for offering the Valley Farmer for a number of the premiums to be awarded. This is the way to sustain and build up a paper which shall do credit to the cause of Agriculture.

Officers of the Madison Co., (Ill.) Ag. Society.—
J. J. Kinder, President.
John Weaver Vice President.
W. S. Boyd, Treasurer.
John A. Prickett, Secretary.
W. T. Brown, G. S. Rice, J. A. Weir, Executive Com.
The third annual fair will be held at Edwardsville, September 9, 10, 11.

New Patent Cotton Band.—On the 9th of June a patent was granted to A. O. Broad, of Louisville Ky., for an improved method of uniting the ends of hoop iron, as a substitute for the ordinary bale rope in binding cotton bales. There is a great advantage, particularly in case of fire, in using iron in the place of rope for this purpose. A cotton bale firmly bound will require a long time to consume by fire, but when bound with rope the bands are speedily burned off, leaving the cotton just in the condition to create the most intense heat. Mr. Broad's invention is a valuable one in many respects. The method of uniting the ends is simple, accomplished by any plantation hand, and when the bales arrive at market and undergo a second pressing, the bands need not be removed, but in one minute may be reduced to the size of the bale and secured again. It may also be applied to hay with equal advantage, although, perhaps at present it may not be cheaper than the wood bands now used, but much more convenient and secure.

Singer's Sewing Machine.—We call attention to new and special information contained in Mr. Dean's advertisement of Singer's Sewing machine, which is meeting with such favorable reception by the public.

A Fine Chance to Purchase good Durhams.—Capt. A. Phillips informs us that Mr. Burnet, of the Society of Shakers will have in St. Louis on the 1st of September, a fine lot of Durhams for sale. The lot consists of a superior roan bull, by imported Challenger, near three years old, live weight 1963 pounds; two cows with young calves; six heifers, roans and reds, from two years to two years and eight months old; and five bull calves from six to ten months old, roans generally, two of them by imported Senator 2d.

State Fairs for 1857.—The following State Agricultural Societies have designated the time for holding their exhibitions:

Illinois, at Peoria.....Sept. 21, 22, 23, 24.
Wisconsin, at Janesville.....Sept. 29, 30, Oct. 1, 2.
New Jersey, at New Brunswick...Sept. 29, 30, Oct. 1, 2.
Pennsylvania, at.....Sept. 29, 30, Oct. 1, 2.
U. S. Ag. Soc. at Louisville, Ky..Sept. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6.
Vermont, at Montpelier.....Sept. 30, Oct. 1, 2.
Ohio, at Cincinnati.....Sept 15, 16, 17, 18.
Canada West, at Brandtford.....Sept. 29, 30, Oct, 1, 2.
Canada East, at Montreal.....Sept. 16, 17, 18.
East Tennesse, at Knoxville.....Oct. 20, 21, 22, 23.
New York, at Buffalo.....October 6, 7 8, 9.
Iowa, at Muscatine.....Oct. 6, 7, 8, 9.
Kentucky, at Henderson.....Oct. 12, 13, 14, 15.
Maryland, at Baltimore.....Oct. 21, 22, 23, 24, 25.
Massachusetts, at Boston.....Oct. 21, 22, 23, 24.
Virginia.....Oct, 28, 29, 30, 31.
West Tennessee, at Jackson.....Oct. 27, 28, 29, 30.
Indiana, at Indianapolis.....Oct. 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10.
New Hampshire, at Concord.....Oct. 7, 8, 9.
Connecticut, at Bridgeport.....Oct. 13, 14, 15, 16.
North Carolina, at Raleigh.....Oct. 20, 21, 22, 23.
Alabama, at Montgomery.....Oct. 27, 28, 29, 30.
South Carolina, at Columbia.....Nov. 10, 11, 12.

FAIRS IN MISSOURI.

Montgomery Co.....Sept. 16, 17, 18,
Boone Co.....Sept. 22, 23, 24, 25,
Ray Co.....Sept. 22, 23, 24, 25,
St. Louis Ag. & Mech. Assoc...Sep 28, 29, 30, Oc. 1, 2, 3
Randolph Co.....Sept. 2, 3, 4, 5,
Callaway Co.....Sept. 22, 23, 24, 25,
St. Charles Ag. and Mech. Ass. .Sept. 22, 23, 24, 25,
Lawrence Co. Fair.....Sept. 30, Oct. 1,
Jackson Co. Fair.....Sept. 29, 30, Oct 1,
North East Missouri, at Paris...Sept. 15, 16, 17, 18,
Lafayette Co., at Union.....Oct. 6, 7, 8,
Franklin Co., at Union .....Oct. 8, 9, 10,
Marion Co., at Palmyra.....Oct. 14, 15, 16, 17,
Clay Co,, at Liberty.....Oct. 14, 15, 16, 17,
Knox Co.....Oct. 20, 21, 22, 23.
South-eastern Di'ct, Cape Girerdeau, Oc 8, 9, 10,
Central District, Boonville.....Oct. 5, 6, 7, 8, 9,
Ralls Co. .....Oct. 8, 9, 10, 11,
Salaine Co. Fair.....Sept. 15, 16, 17,
Cass ..... " 22, 23, 24, 25,
Howard Co, Fayette..... " 22, 23, 24, 25,
Clark Co, Waterloo..... " 23, 24,
Pike Co, Boling Green.....Oct. 13, 14, 15, 16,
Bond Co,.....Oct. 7, 8,
Scotland Co,.....Oct. 1, 2, 3.

COUNTY FAIRS IN ILLINOIS.

Brown Co. Ag. Soc., Mt. Sterling Oct. 7. 8,
Sangamon, Springfield..... Oct. 16, 17, 18,
Stevenson .....Oct. 7, 8, 9,
Winnebago, Rockford.....Oct. 13, 14, 15,
Pike, Pittsfield..... Oct. 14, 15,
Campaign, Urbana. .....Oct. 6,
Edgar, Paris.....Oct. 1, 2,
Cass, Virginia.....Sept. 1, 2. 3.
Tazwell, Tremont.....Sept. 17, 18,
Morgan, Jacksonville.....September 8, 9, 10, 11,
Carroll, Mt. Carroll .....September 22, 23, 24,
Madison, Edwardsville..... " 9, 10, 11.
Lawrence, Lawrenceville..... " 17, 18,
Macoupin..... " 17, 18,
Green, Carrolton..... " 10, 11,
Cole, Mattoon..... " 9, 10, 11, 12,

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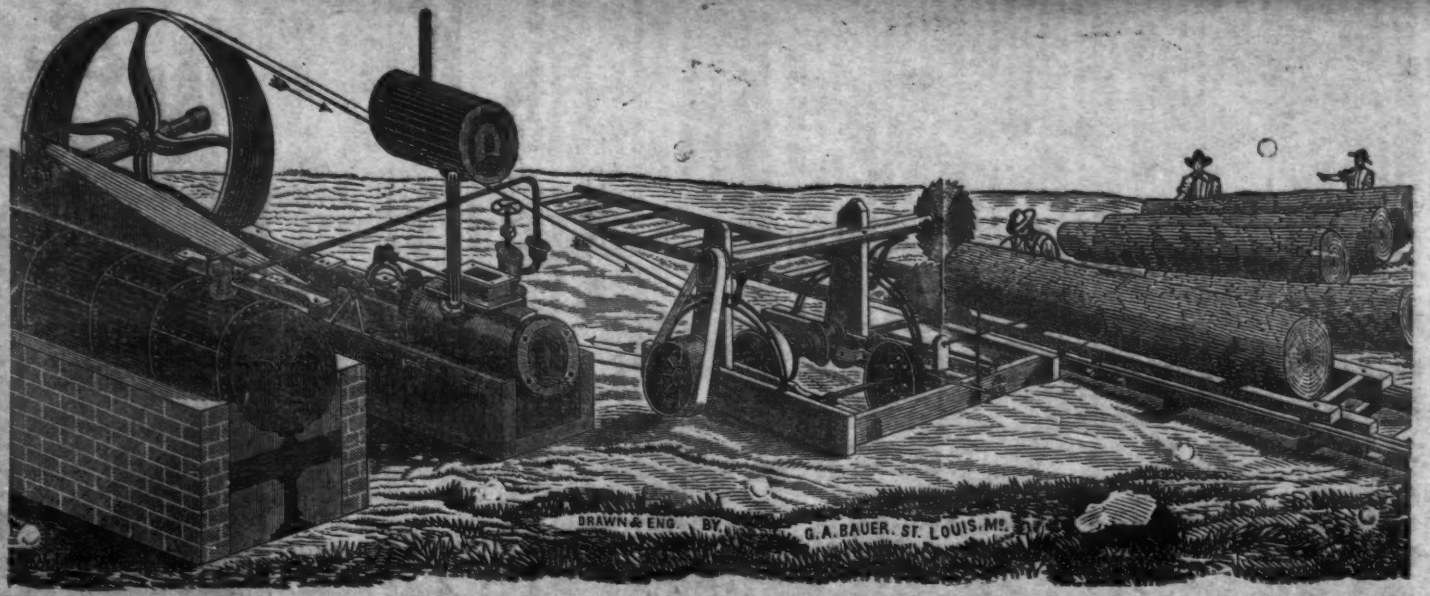

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